English Steven Eugene Form 4 March 08, 2010

### FORM 4

#### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

**OMB** 3235-0287

**OMB APPROVAL** 

Number:

Expires:

January 31, 2005

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response...

0.5

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

Check this box

obligations may continue. See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \* 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading English Steven Eugene Issuer Symbol State Auto Financial CORP [STFC] (Check all applicable) (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) Director 10% Owner Other (specify X\_ Officer (give title 518 E. BROAD STREET 03/04/2010 below) Vice President (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) \_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting COLUMBUS, OH 43215 Person

(City)	(State) (Z	Zip) Table	e I - Non-Do	erivative S	Securit	ties Ac	quired, Disposed	of, or Beneficia	lly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities nAcquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)  (A) or		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
Common			Code V	Amount	(D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Shares without par value	03/04/2010		A	0	A	\$ 0	4,087.332 (1)	D	

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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# Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of or Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount Underlying Securition (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amou or Numb of Sha
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) NQ	\$ 18.78	03/04/2010		A	18,601	03/04/2011(2)	03/03/2020	Common Shares	18,6

# **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address		Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

English Steven Eugene 518 E. BROAD STREET COLUMBUS, OH 43215

Vice President

### **Signatures**

Steven E. English by James A. Yano, attorney in fact pursuant to POA filed with commission 5-7-07.

03/08/2010

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Includes the following acquisitions: 27.695 shares acquired in December 2009 under the STFC Dividend Reinvestment Plan; and 295.694 shares acquired in December 2009 through the State Auto Financial Corp. Employee Stock Purchase Plan.
- (2) The options vest in three equal annual installments beginning on March 4, 2011.
- (3) Field should be left blank, but due to a software defect, requires imput.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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