

BLACKBURN MARK A
Form 4
December 15, 2009

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
BLACKBURN MARK A

(Last) (First) (Middle)
518 E. BROAD STREET
(Street)

COLUMBUS, OH 43215

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

State Auto Financial CORP [STFC]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
12/11/2009

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)

Executive Vice President

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (D) | Price |
| Common Shares without par value | 12/11/2009 | | A ⁽¹⁾ | 5 | ⁽¹⁾ | A | \$ 0 |
| | | | | | 35,962.675 | ⁽²⁾ | D |

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

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(9-02)

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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 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 of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| | | | | | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| | | | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| BLACKBURN MARK A 518 E. BROAD STREET COLUMBUS, OH 43215 | | | Executive Vice President | |

Signatures

Mark A. Blackburn by James A. Yano, attorney in fact pursuant to POA filed with commission 5/7/07. 12/15/2009

__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) Transaction reflects an annual stock bonus award made to the reporting person and to all full time employees of the Issuer.
- (2) Includes the following acquisitions: 2.965 shares acquired in September 2009 through the STFC non-qualified plan; 63.933 shares acquired in September 2009 as dividend reinvestment.

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.