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Form 990-EZ

Short Form

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)

Sponsoring organizations of donor advised funds, organizations that operate one or more hospital facilities, and certain controlling organizations as defined in section 512(b)(13) must file Form 990 (see instructions) All other organizations with gross receipts less than \$200,000 and total assets less than \$500,000 at the end of the year may use this form

The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements

2012

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2012 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2012, and ending 12-31-2012

- B Check if applicable: Address change, Name change, Initial return, Terminated, Amended return, Application pending

C Name of organization: STERLING EMS INC. Number and street: 5 MAIN STREET PO BOX 597. City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4: STERLING, MA 01564

D Employer identification number: 23-7378148. E Telephone number: (978) 422-8567. F Group Exemption Number

G Accounting Method: Cash, Accrual, Other (specify)

H Check if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

I Website: sterlingems.com

J Tax-exempt status (check only one): 501(c)(3), 501(c)(), 4947(a)(1) or 527

K Check if the organization is not a section 509(a)(3) supporting organization or a section 527 organization and its gross receipts are normally not more than \$50,000

L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, line 25, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ \$ 20,656

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (see the instructions for Part I)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I

Table with 21 rows and 3 columns: Line number, Description, and Amount. Revenue section (lines 1-9) and Expenses section (lines 10-17) are detailed. Net Assets section (lines 18-21) shows ending balance of 340,664.

Part II Balance Sheets (see the instructions for Part II)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II

	(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	303,949	22 335,582
23 Land and buildings		23
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)	6,040	24 5,082
25 Total assets	309,989	25 340,664
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O)		26
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	309,989	27 340,664

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (see the instructions for Part III)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III

Expenses
(Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) trusts, optional for others)

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose?

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE RELATED PHILANTHROPY

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title

28 PROMOTE THE HEALTH , WELFARE, AND WELL-BEING AND PROVIDE COMMUNITY SUPPORT TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN OF STERLING, MASSACHUSETTS (Grants \$ 2,551) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	28a	
29 PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS TO PERSONS OR ORGANIZATIONS WHO DEMONSTRATE A DESIRE TO SERVE OR ASSIST THE PUBLIC IN THE HEALTH CARE FIELD (Grants \$ 4,106) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	29a	
30 PROVIDE ANCILLARY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE FORM OF CONSULTATION AND TRAINING (Grants \$ 513) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	30a	
31 Other program services (describe in Schedule O) (Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	31a	
32 Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a)	32	7,170

Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees List each one even if not compensated (see the instructions for Part IV)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV.

(a) Name and title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
BARRY LEIN Secretary	0	0		
ROBERT KIRKPATRICK President	0	0		
RICHARD FARRAR Treasurer	0	0		
JAMES EMERTON Director	0	0		

Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the

instructions for Part V) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V

		Yes	No
33	Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O		No
34	Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O (see instructions)		No
35a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?		No
b	If "Yes," to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O		No
c	Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III		No
36	Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N		No
37a	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions <input type="checkbox"/> 37a _____		
b	Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?		No
38a	Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return?		No
b	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved 38b _____		
39	Section 501(c)(7) organizations Enter		
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9 39a 0		
b	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities 39b 0		
40a	Section 501(c)(3) organizations Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under section 4911 <input type="checkbox"/> _____, section 4912 <input type="checkbox"/> _____, section 4955 <input type="checkbox"/> _____		
b	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I	40b	No
c	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 <input type="checkbox"/>		
d	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization <input type="checkbox"/>		
e	All organizations At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T	40e	No
41	List the states with which a copy of this return is filed <input type="checkbox"/> _____		
42a	The organization's books are in care of <input type="checkbox"/> <u>STERLING EMS INC</u> Telephone no <input type="checkbox"/> <u>(978) 391-8880</u> Located at <input type="checkbox"/> <u>5 MAIN STREET - BOX 597 STERLING, MA</u> ZIP + 4 <input type="checkbox"/> <u>01564</u>		
b	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country <input type="checkbox"/> _____ See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts.	42b	No
c	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the U S ? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country <input type="checkbox"/> _____	42c	No
43	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 —Check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year <input type="checkbox"/> 43 _____		
44a	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44a	No
b	Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44b	No
c	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?	44c	No
d	If "Yes," to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	44d	No
45a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	45a	No
45b	Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ (see instructions)	45b	No

	Yes	No
46		No

46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I

Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations only

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI

	Yes	No
47		No
48		No
49a		No
49b		No

47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II

48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E

49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?

b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?

50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None "

(a) Name and title of each employee paid more than \$100,000	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
NONE				

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None "

(a) Name and address of each independent contractor paid more than \$100,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
NONE		

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000.

52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? **NOTE:** All Section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A Yes No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here *****
 Signature of officer
 RICHARD FARRAR Treasurer
 Type or print name and title
 2013-08-09
 Date

Paid Preparer Use Only
 Print/Type preparer's name Preparer's signature EDWARD S JABLONSKI Date
 Firm's name Marhefka & Jablonski CPAs Firm's EIN
 Firm's address 484 Main St Ste 330 Worcester, MA 01608 Phone no (508) 754-2260

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions Yes No

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990EZ)

Public Charity Status and Public Support

OMB No 1545-0047

2012

Open to Public Inspection

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. ▶ See separate instructions.

Name of the organization
STERLING EMS INC

Employer identification number
23-7378148

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box)

- 1 A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2 A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E)
- 3 A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.
- 4 A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state _____
- 5 An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II)
- 6 A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7 An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II)
- 8 A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)** (Complete Part II)
- 9 An organization that normally receives (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975 See **section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III)
- 10 An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety See **section 509(a)(4)**.
- 11 An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2) See **section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h
 a Type I b Type II c Type III - Functionally integrated d Type III - Non-functionally integrated
- e By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2)
- f If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, or Type III supporting organization, check this box
- g Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons?
 (i) A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the supported organization?
 (ii) A family member of a person described in (i) above?
 (iii) A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above?
- h Provide the following information about the supported organization(s)

	Yes	No
11g(i)		No
11g(ii)		No
11g(iii)		No

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1- 9 above or IRC section (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization in col (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in col (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in col (i) organized in the U S ?		(vii) Amount of monetary support
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
See Additional Data Table									
Total									1,541

Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3						
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						
6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4						

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4						
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
10 Other income Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV)						
11 Total support (Add lines 7 through 10)						
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc (see instructions)					12	
13 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here ▶						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

14 Public support percentage for 2012 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	14	
15 Public support percentage for 2011 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	
16a 33 1/3% support test—2012. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶		
b 33 1/3% support test—2011. If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶		
17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2012. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶		
b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2011. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶		
18 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions ▶		

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose						
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513						
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5						
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year						
c Add lines 7a and 7b						
8 Public support (Subtract line 7c from line 6)						

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6						
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975						
c Add lines 10a and 10b						
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)						
13 Total support. (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.)						
14 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here <input type="checkbox"/>						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

15 Public support percentage for 2012 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	15	
16 Public support percentage from 2011 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16	

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

17 Investment income percentage for 2012 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	17	
18 Investment income percentage from 2011 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18	

- 19a 33 1/3% support tests—2012.** If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here**. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization
- b 33 1/3% support tests—2011.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3% and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here**. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization
- 20 Private foundation.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions

Part IV **Supplemental Information.** Complete this part to provide the explanations required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; and Part III, line 12. Also complete this part for any additional information. (See instructions).

Facts And Circumstances Test

Explanation

Additional Data

Software ID: 12000229
Software Version: 2012v2.0
EIN: 23-7378148
Name: STERLING EMS INC

Form 990, Sch A, Part I, Line 11h - Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

(i) Name of Supported Organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1- 9 above or IRC section)	(iv) Is the organization in (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in (i) organized in the U S ?		(vii) Amount of support?
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
(A) TOWN OF STERLING MA RECREATION DEPT	046001309	8		No	Yes		Yes		1541
(B) STERLING FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION	222551274	8		No	Yes		Yes		0
(C) TOWN OF STERLING MASS FIRE DEPT	046001309	8		No	Yes		Yes		0

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on Form 990 or to provide any additional information.
▶ **Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.**

OMB No 1545-0047

2012

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
STERLING EMS INC

Employer identification number

23-7378148

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990-EZ, Part II, Line 24 1005	Other Assets 1005	Accounts Receivable - Beginning \$6040 Accounts Receivable - Ending \$5082
Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16 5	Other Expenses 5	FILING FEES \$95
Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16 4	Other Expenses 4	EMT TRAINING \$500
Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16 3	Other Expenses 3	COMMUNITY SUPPORT \$983
Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16 2	Other Expenses 2	CONTRIBUTIONS \$1541
Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16 1	Other Expenses 1	INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT FEES \$1782
Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16 1002	Other Expenses 1002	Office Expenses \$76