Howes Robert S Jr Form 4 May 27, 2009

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Expires: January 31, 2005

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

obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Howes Robert S Jr			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ESSA Bancorp, Inc. [ESSA]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
(Last) (First) (Mid		(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check an approact)		
200 PALMER	R STREET		(Month/Day/Year) 05/23/2009	Director 10% OwnerX Officer (give title Other (specify below) Senior Vice President		
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check		
STROUDSBURG, PA 18360			Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tabl	e I - Non-De	erivative Securities Acq	uired, Disposed o	f, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) or Amount (D) Price	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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	05/23/2009		F ·	4,229 D \$ 13.25	47,121 (2)	D	
Common Stock					24,284 (1)	I	By 401(k)
Common Stock					150	I	By child
Common Stock					121	I	By spouse's IRA
Common Stock					820	I	By IRA

Common Stock 2,510 $\underline{^{(1)}}$ I By ESOP

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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	5. onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		e	7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and	Securities
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options	\$ 12.35					05/23/2009	05/23/2018	Common Stock	123,799 (3)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Howes Robert S Jr

200 PALMER STREET Senior Vice President

STROUDSBURG, PA 18360

Signatures

/s/ Marc P. Levy, Pursuant to Power of Attorney 05/27/2009

**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) Reflects transactions not required to be reported pursuant to Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
- (2) Includes shares of restricted stock that vest at a rate of 20% per year commencing on May 23, 2009.
- (3) Represents stock options that vest at a rate of 20% per year commencing on May 23, 2009.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Reporting Owners 2

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