FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/
Form 4
February 17, 2010

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL
OMB Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31, 2005
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. *See* Instruction 1(b).

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 *
BARBERCHECK RICHARD S

(Last) (First) (Middle)

4000 SMITH RD., SUITE 400

(Street)

CINCINNATI, OH 45209

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol
FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/ [FFBC]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
02/14/2010

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
(Check all applicable)
_____ Director _____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
SVP & CCO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
_X_ 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	02/14/2010		A(2)		612	A	$ 17.05	4,587	D	
Common Stock	02/14/2010		D(1)		975	D	$ 17.05	12,325	I	Restricted
Common Stock								284.2	I	401k (3)

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control

SEC 1474 (9-02)

number.

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. Pri Deriv Secur (Instr
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
2006 (ISO) Stock Option	$ 16.02							04/24/2007	04/24/2016	Common Stock	6,242	
2006 (NQ) Stock Option	$ 16.02							04/24/2007	04/24/2016	Common Stock	6,858	
2007 (ISO) Stock Option	$ 14.9							04/30/2008	04/30/2017	Common Stock	6,711	
2007 (NQ) Stock Option	$ 14.9							04/30/2008	04/30/2017	Common Stock	9,489	
2008 (ISO) Stock Option	$ 11.64							02/14/2009	02/14/2018	Common Stock	8,591	
2008 (NQ) Stock Option	$ 11.64							02/14/2009	02/14/2018	Common Stock	36,909	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other

BARBERCHECK RICHARD S
4000 SMITH RD.
SUITE 400
CINCINNATI, OH 45209

SVP & CCO

Signatures

/s/Terri J Ziepfel, POA	02/17/2010
**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) Vesting of Restricted Stock Award

(2) Vesting of Restricted Stock Award less shares withheld for taxes

(3) Updated as of 12/31/10

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.