

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/
Form 4
February 19, 2008

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 *
HALL J FRANKLIN

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
300 HIGH STREET
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
02/14/2008

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

HAMILTON, OH 45011
(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock					8,355	D	
Common Stock	02/14/2008		J(1)		48.6565	A	\$ 0 1,174.921
Common Stock	02/14/2008		A		4,500	A	\$ 0 15,000

Restricted Stock Awards

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

SEC 1474 (9-02)

displays a currently valid OMB control 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)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title Amount or Number of Shares
2000 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 17.56					01/24/2001 01/24/2010	Common Stock 5,694
2000 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 17.56					01/24/2001 01/24/2010	Common Stock 1,078
2001 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 16.0124					01/22/2002 01/22/2011	Common Stock 5,250
2002 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 17.2					01/17/2003 01/17/2012	Common Stock 5,000
2003 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 16.58					01/22/2004 01/22/2013	Common Stock 6,031
2003 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 16.58					01/22/2004 01/22/2013	Common Stock 3,969
2004 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 17.09					01/21/2005 01/21/2014	Common Stock 2,500
2005 (ISO) Stock	\$ 17.51					04/18/2006 04/18/2015	Common Stock 5,711

Option 2005 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 17.51					04/18/2006	04/18/2015	Common Stock	8,589
Option 2006 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 16.02					04/24/2007	04/24/2016	Common Stock	6,242
Option 2006 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 16.02					04/24/2007	04/24/2016	Common Stock	11,058
Option 2007 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 14.9					04/30/2008	04/30/2017	Common Stock	6,711
Option 2007 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 14.9					04/30/2008	04/30/2017	Common Stock	12,489
Option 2007 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 11.64	02/14/2008		A	43,909	02/14/2009	02/14/2018	Common Stock	43,909
Option 2008 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 11.64	02/14/2008		A	8,591	02/14/2009	02/14/2018	Common Stock	8,591

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
HALL J FRANKLIN 300 HIGH STREET HAMILTON, OH 45011			SVP & CFO	

Signatures

Terri J. Ziepfel 02/18/2008

__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) Annual update per statement

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.