

FIRST MERCHANTS CORP
Form 4
March 03, 2017

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 *
RECHIN MICHAEL C

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
**FIRST MERCHANTS CORP
[FRME]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
200 E JACKSON STREET

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
03/01/2017

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
Chief Executive Officer / President

MUNCIE, IN 47305

(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 | 03/01/2017 | | M | | 15,000 | A | \$ 28.25 |
| Common Stock | 03/01/2017 | | M | | 5,000 | A | \$ 15.32 |
| Common Stock | 03/01/2017 | | F | | 1,346 | D | \$ 40.67 |
| Common Stock | 03/01/2017 | | S | | 11,461 | D | \$ 40.67 |
| Common Stock | 03/01/2017 | | S | | 5,000 | D | \$ 40.67 ⁽¹⁾ |

Common Stock 4,673.227 I by 401k

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. 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 |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 28.25 | 03/01/2017 | | M | 15,000 | 02/27/2010 02/27/2018 | Common Stock | 15,000 | |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 15.32 | 03/01/2017 | | M | 5,000 | 02/19/2015 02/19/2023 | Common Stock | 5,000 | |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| RECHIN MICHAEL C 200 E JACKSON STREET MUNCIE, IN 47305 | | | Chief Executive Officer | President |

Signatures

Addison Nicoll (Confirming Statement on File) 03/03/2017

**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) Includes Restricted Stock Awards totaling 29,117.617 shares

Remarks:

Exhibit 24; Confirming Statement

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