

FIRST OPPORTUNITY FUND INC  
 Form 4  
 January 07, 2009

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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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 \*  
 RYAN JOHN R

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 FIRST OPPORTUNITY FUND INC  
 [FF]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 75 STATE STREET  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 01/01/2009

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 Officer of Investment Advisor

BOSTON, MA 02109  
 (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 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |     |       |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|-------|
|                                 |                                      |                                                    |                                | (A) or (D)                                                        | Code                                                                                | V                                                        | Amount                            | (D) | Price |

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 number.**

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 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

| 1. Title of Derivative Security | 2. Conversion or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Transaction Code | 5. Number of | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying | 8. Price of Derivative Security | 9. Nu Deriv Secur |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|

