

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/

Form 4

January 07, 2003

- 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person
Thatcher, Perry D.
7 Gardner Place
Middletown, OH 45042
2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
First Financial Bancorp (FFBC)
3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)
269-26-4883
4. Statement for Month/Day/Year
01/06/2003
5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)
6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
(X) Director () 10% Owner
() Officer (give title below) () Other (specify below)
7. 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

Table with columns: 1. Title of Security, 2. Transaction Date, 2A. Execution Date, 3. Transaction Code, 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D), 5. Amount, 6. Price, 7. Reportable Transaction.

TABLE II -- Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

Table with columns: 1. Title of Derivative Security, 2. Derivative Security Price, 3. Transaction Date, 3A. Execution Date, 4. Transaction Code, 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D), 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date, 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities.

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Stock
Option
2000 (NQ) \$16.9048
Stock
Option

Stock
04/25/2010 Common
Stock

Explanation of Responses:

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON
/s/ Terri J. Ziepfel

DATE
01/07/2003