FIRST MERCHANTS CORP

Form 4

September 02, 2005

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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 *

CONNORS ROBERT R

(Middle)

(Last) (First)

POST OFFICE 792

MUNCIE, IN 47308-0792

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [FRME]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 09/01/2005

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

OMB

Number:

Expires:

response...

Estimated average

burden hours per

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner

_X__ Officer (give title __X__ Other (specify below) below)

Senior Vice President / Chief Information

Officer

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

(Street)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Instr. 3)

(Month/Day/Year)

4. Securities Code (Instr. 8)

TransactionAcquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

Code V Amount (D) Price

(A)

or

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

Reported

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

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.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative

Conversion

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed

(Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

4. 5. Number

6. Date Exercisable and Transaction of Derivative Expiration Date

7. Title and Amount of **Underlying Securities**

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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security		any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8	8)	`		(Month/Day/Y	onth/Day/Year)		(Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) (1) (2)	\$ 26.7	09/01/2005		A		8,000		11/30/2005	08/31/2015	Common	8,000	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships							
1 0	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other				
CONNORS ROBERT R				Chief				
POST OFFICE 792			Senior Vice President	Information				
MUNCIE, IN 47308-0792				Officer				

Signatures

Larry R. Helms (Confirming Statement on File) 09/02/2005

**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) Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Direct: 458
- (2) Deferred Stock Units Owned Direct: 428.92

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.

Reporting Owners 2