FIRST MERCHANTS CORP

Form 4 July 03, 2006

FORM 4

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

SECURITIES

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB

Number:

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January 31, Expires: 2005

OMB APPROVAL

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obligations

Check this box

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

may continue. See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

(Last)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * GORA JO ANN M

(First)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

FIRST MERCHANTS CORP

[FRME]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 07/01/2006

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify

below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

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

Person

MUNCIE, IN 47305

200 E JACKSON ST

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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

Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

(Middle)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported

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

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

or Code V Amount (D) Price

(A)

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form 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 Conversion (Instr. 3) or Exercise

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if any

4. 5. Number Transaction of Derivative Expiration Date Code Securities

6. Date Exercisable and (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amou Underlying Securi (Instr. 3 and 4)

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	Price of Derivative Security		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr.)	8)	Acquired (A) or Disposed (D) (Instr. 3, and 5)	d of				
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amo or Num of Shar
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right	\$ 24.31	07/01/2006		A		1,157		01/01/2007	06/30/2016	Common	1,

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships							
reporting owner runner runners	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other				
GORA JO ANN M 200 E JACKSON ST MUNCIE, IN 47305	X							

Signatures

to Buy)

Larry R. Helms (Confirming Statement on File) 07/03/2006

**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).

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.

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