FIRST MERCHANTS CORP

Form 4 July 30, 2015

FORM 4

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

OMB APPROVAL

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

January 31, Expires: 2005 Estimated average

0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

burden hours per response...

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Stewart Michael J			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [FRME]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
(Last) 200 E JACKS	(Last) (First) (Middle)		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/28/2015	Director 10% Owner _X Officer (give title _X Other (specify below) Chief Banking Officer / Executive Vice President
(Street) MUNCIE, IN 47305			4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
			Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Ac	cauired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

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

		1 401	CI-INDII-D	ciivative	Secui	ines Acq	un cu, Disposcu o	i, or Denemeral	iy Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		4. Securities Acquired on(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	
			Code V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock	07/28/2015		M	2,000	A	\$ 15.32	41,044.875	D	
Common Stock	07/28/2015		M	7,500	A	\$ 11.38	48,544.875	D	
Common Stock	07/28/2015		M	8,000	A	\$ 11.14	56,544.875	D	
Common Stock	07/28/2015		F	8,116	D	\$ 26.08	48,428.875 (1)	D	
Common Stock							3,039.018	I	401(k) Plan

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

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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 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. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	Secu Acq (A) Disp (D)	urities uired or oosed of er. 3, 4,	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)	\$ 15.32	07/28/2015		M		2,000	02/19/2015	02/19/2023	Common Stock	2,000
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 11.38	07/28/2015		M		7,500	02/23/2014	02/23/2022	Common Stock	7,500
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 11.14	07/28/2015		M		8,000	02/24/2011	02/24/2019	Common Stock	8,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships							
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other				
Stewart Michael J 200 E JACKSON STREET			Chief Banking Officer	Executive Vice President				
MUNCIE, IN 47305								

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Signatures

Deanna Brass (Confirming Statement on File) 07/30/2015

**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 23,675.66 shares

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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