

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/

Form 5

March 06, 2003

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person
 Posey, Steven C.
 McDonald's Office
 1733 S. Breiel
 Middletown, OH 45044
2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 First Financial Bancorp (FFBC)
3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)
 289-42-9794
4. Statement for Month/Year
 12/2002
5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)
6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
 Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
7. 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	2. Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/ Year)	2A.Execu- action Date (Month/ Day/ Year)	3. Trans- action Code	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Amount A/D Price	5. Amo Securi Benefi Owned Follow Yea
Common Stock					1594
Common Stock					1716
Common Stock					5993
Common Stock	05/01/2002	03/05/2003	J 4		