FIRST MERCHANTS CORP

Form 4 March 02, 2006

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

OMB APPROVAL

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Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

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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

See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading MCAULIFFE THOMAS Issuer Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORP (Check all applicable) [FRME] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction _X__ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title _ Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) 4187 OLENTANGY BLVD 02/15/2006 (Street) 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

COLUMBUS, OH 43214

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	le I - Non-	Derivative	Secu	rities Acqui	red, Disposed of,	or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired (A) Execution Date, if Transactiom Disposed of (D) any Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (A) or		(D)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
			Code V	Amount	(D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock (1) (2) (3)	02/18/2006		S	100	D	\$ 25.5	32,455	D	
Common Stock	02/18/2006		S	2,897	D	\$ 25.3818	29,558	D	
Common Stock	02/18/2006		S	700	D	\$ 25.38	28,858	D	
Common Stock	02/18/2006		S	300	D	\$ 25.48	28,558	D	
Common Stock	02/18/2006		S	3	D	\$ 25.39	28,555	D	

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Common Stock	02/24/2006	S	1,900	D	\$ 25.63	26,655	D
Common Stock	02/24/2006	S	100	D	\$ 25.62	26,555	D
Common Stock	02/24/2006	S	100	D	\$ 25.58	26,455	D
Common Stock	02/24/2006	S	800	D	\$ 25.57	25,655	D
Common Stock	02/24/2006	S	800	D	\$ 25.43	24,855	D
Common Stock	02/24/2006	S	35	D	\$ 25.44	24,820	D
Common Stock	02/24/2006	S	750	D	\$ 25.3828	24,070	D

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

> 9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr

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

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exer	cisable and	/. Titl	le and	8. Price of	
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transac	tionNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amou	int of	Derivative	J
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security	,
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8) Derivative	e		Secur	ities	(Instr. 5)	J
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr.	3 and 4)		(
	Security				Acquired						J
					(A) or]
					Disposed						7
					of (D)						(
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
					Ź						
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration		or		
						Exercisable	Date	Title	Number		
						Exercisable	Dute		of		
				Code '	V (A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships							
reporting 6 wher runner runners	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other				
MCAULIFFE THOMAS 4187 OLENTANGY BLVD COLUMBUS, OH 43214	X							

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Date

Signatures

Larry R. Helms (Confirming Statement on File) 03/02/2006

**Signature of Reporting Person

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) Deferred Stock Units Owned Direct: 652.31
- (2) Beneficially Owned Securities: 8,398. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership: Spouse
- (3) Number of Beneficial Securities Deriatively Owned: 20,450. Nature of Derivative Ownership: Option to Purchase 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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