FIRST BANCORP /NC/ Form 8-K January 31, 2012

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

Form 8-K

CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): January 31, 2012

First Bancorp

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

North Carolina 0-15572 56-1421916 (State or Other Jurisdiction (Commission (I.R.S. Employer of Incorporation) File Number) Identification Number)

341 North Main Street, Troy, North Carolina

27371

(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(910) 576-6171

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable

(Former Name or Former Address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- £ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- £ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- £ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- £ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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Item 2.02 – Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On January 31, 2012, the Registrant issued a news release to announce its financial results for the three and twelve months ended December 31, 2011. The news release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1. The news release includes disclosure of net interest income on a tax-equivalent basis, which is a performance measure used by management in operating its business, which management believes provides investors with a more accurate picture of net interest income and net interest margins for comparative purposes.

Item 9.01 – Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit No. Description 99.1 Press release issued on January 31, 2012

Disclosures About Forward Looking Statements

The discussions included in this document and its exhibits contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, which statements are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties. Forward-looking statements are statements that include projections, predictions, expectations or beliefs about future events or results or otherwise are not statements of historical fact. Such statements are often characterized by the use of qualifying words (and their derivatives) such as "expect," "believe," "estimate," "plan," "project," "anticipate," or other statements concerning opinions or judgments of the Company and its management about future events. Factors that could influence the accuracy of such forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, the financial success or changing strategies of the Registrant's customers, the Registrant's level of success in integrating acquisitions, actions of government regulators, the level of market interest rates, and general economic conditions. For additional information about the factors that could affect the matters discussed in this paragraph, see the "Risk Factors" section of the Company's most recent annual report on Form 10-K.

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Signatures

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

First Bancorp

January 31, 2012 By: /s/ Jerry L. Ocheltree Jerry L. Ocheltree President and Chief Executive Officer

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