FIRST MERCHANTS CORP

Form 4

December 17, 2013

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

OMB

Check this box if no longer subject to

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

3235-0287 Number: January 31,

2005

0.5

OMB APPROVAL

Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per

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

response...

Expires:

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * CONNORS ROBERT R

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

Symbol

FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [FRME]

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

Director 10% Owner __X_ Other (specify X_ Officer (give title below) below)

200 E JACKSON STREET

(Month/Day/Year) 12/16/2013

Chief Information Officer / Senior Vice

President

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

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

(Instr. 4)

Person

MUNCIE, IN 47305

(Zip) (City) (State)

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

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

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

(Instr. 4)

Reported (A) or

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

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

4. 5. Number of TransactionDerivative

6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date**

7. Title and Amount of 8. Pr **Underlying Securities** Deri

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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security		any Code (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8)	Code (Instr. 8)	Securities Acquired (A or Disposed (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(A) ed of	(Month/Day/Year)		(Instr. 3 and 4)		Secu (Inst
				Code V	(A)	` /	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Phantom Stock	<u>(1)</u>	12/16/2013		A	56.421		<u>(1)</u>	<u>(1)</u>	Common Stock	56.421	\$ 2

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

CONNORS ROBERT R 200 E JACKSON STREET MUNCIE, IN 47305

Chief Information Officer Senior Vice President

Signatures

Jennifer Mainord (Confirming Statement on File)

12/17/2013

**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) Each share of phantom stock is the economic equivalent of one share of FRME common stock. The shares of phantom stock will be settled in cash or shares of FRME common stock, at the reporting person's election, upon separation from First Merchants.

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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