FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL

| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Estimated average bu | rden |
| hours nor resnance. | 0.5 |

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * $\underline{HOY~WILLIAM~L}$ | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [FRME] | | | | | | | | | heck al | nship of Reportii I applicable) Director | Ü | erson(s) to Issuer 10% Owner | | |
|--|---|--|--|---------|------------------------------|---|---|-------|--|------|--|---|-------------|-----------------------|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 200 E JACKSON STREET | | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2013 | | | | | | | | | | Officer (give title pelow) | | Other below) | (specify | |
| (Street) MUNCIE IN 47305 (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | | 4. If | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | ne) <mark>X</mark> I | lividual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | |
| | | Tab | le I - Nor | n-Deriv | ative | Se | curitie | s Acc | uired, | Disp | osed o | f, or | Bene | eficia | ılly Oı | wned | | | | |
| Date | | | | | n/Day/Year) if | | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | Transaction Dispose Code (Instr. 5) | | rities Acquired (A ed Of (D) (Instr. 3, | | | nd Se Be On | Amount of ecurities eneficially wned Following | 6. Owner Form: Di (D) or Ind (I) (Instr. | rect direct | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | v | Amount | (| A) or D) | Price | Tr | eported ansaction(s) nstr. 3 and 4) | | | (Instr. 4) | |
| Common | Stock | | L/ 20 13 | 2013 | | | A | | 330 | | Α | \$0 | | 21,453 ⁽¹⁾ | | | | | | |
| | | Ta | able II - D | | | | | | | | sed of, onvertib | | | | / Own | ied | | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution D if any (Month/Day/ | Date, | 4. Transa Code (8) | | | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4) | | ount | 8. Price Derivat Securit (Instr. 5 | ive derivative y Securities | Own Form Direct or In (I) (Ir | Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Includes Restricted Stock Awards totaling 5,621 shares

Remarks:

<u>Jennifer Mainord (Confirming</u> Statement on File)

01/03/2014

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- * 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.