

remainder of his term which expires upon the 2009 annual meeting of the shareholders.

(c) The Board of Directors of the Corporation has appointed Michael C. Rechin who was formerly the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Corporation to serve as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation. The Board of Directors has also appointed Charles E. Schalliol as its Chairman. Mr. Schalliol formerly served as Vice Chairman of the Corporation.

(e) See the modifications to the SERP discussed above.

Item 8.01. Other Events.

On April 24, 2007, the Board of Directors approved the redemption of the Corporation's subordinated debentures payable to First Merchants Capital Trust I. The aggregate redemption price will be the principal amount of \$54,832,000 plus any accrued but unpaid interest. The early redemption of the debentures will also require the Corporation to accelerate the recognition of the remaining unamortized underwriting fee of approximately \$1.8 million during the second quarter of 2007. The redemption may occur at any time on or after June 30, 2007 and has been previously approved by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. The Corporation intends to finance the redemption through a private offering of trust preferred securities on terms more favorable than then current debentures. The Corporation currently anticipates the savings to be approximately \$1.2 million annually.

The redemption of the debentures would be followed by the redemption by First Merchants Capital Trust I of its outstanding common and preferred securities at their \$25 liquidation value, plus any accrued but unpaid distributions.

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 hereunto duly authorized.

DATE: April 26, 2007.

FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION

By: /s/ Michael C. Rechin

Michael C. Rechin,
President and
Chief Executive Officer