FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| Washington, | D.C. 20549 |
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

OMB APPROVAL 3235-0287 Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

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

| Name and Address of Reporting Person* Stewart Michael J | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [FRME] | | | | | | | | | all app Direc | licable) | ng Person(s) to Is 10% Ov Other (s | | wner | | | |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|-------------------|---|---------------------|---|--------------------|--|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---|---|--|-----------------|--|--|--|
| (Last) 200 E JA | (Fir | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 06/30/2021 | | | | | | | | | below | <i>ı</i>) `` | below) ident | | specify | | | | | |
| (Street) MUNCII (City) | MUNCIE IN 47305 | | | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable ne) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | |
| | | Table | I - No | n-Deriva | tive S | Secui | rities | Acc | quired | , Dis | posed of | , or B | enef | icially | Own | ed | | | | | |
| Date | | | | 2. Transact Date (Month/Day | y/Year) if a | | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, f any Month/Day/Year) | | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 5) | | | and Securit | | ties cially Following | Form: Direct | | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | | |
| | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) o (D) | Pric | се | Transa | eu ction(s) 3 and 4) | | | (Instr. 4) | | | | | |
| Common Stock 06/30, | | | | | | 021 | | | A | v | 27 | A | \$3 | 8.784 | 70,2 | 03.41(1) | I |) | | | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0.007 | |] | | 401(k) Plan | | | |
| | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | Execut if any | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | action (Instr. | | | 6. Date Exerc Expiration Da (Month/Day/\) | | ate | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Ins 3 and 4) | | Der Sec (Ins | rice of ivative curity etr. 5) | 9. Number derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | Owners Form: Direct (or India (I) (Inst | vnership rm: | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
| | exting of Bosponsos: | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | | Expiration Date | Title | Amou or Numb of Share | er | | | | | | | | |

lanation of Responses:

1. Includes Restricted Stock Awards totaling 29,061.475 shares

Remarks:

Logan Edon (Confirming Statement on File)

07/02/2021

** 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.