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 burden						
1	hours per response:	0.5					

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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

					0. 0		(n) of the I			p ,								
Name and Address of Reporting Person*     FISHER MICHAEL J					2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [ FRME ]							(Check a	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)					
TISTIBLE WITCHINED 9				-								—	X Director			10% Ow	ner	
(Last)	(First)	(Mi	ddle)		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2023									Officer (give below)	title		Other (sp	pecify below)
200 EAST JACKSON ST				4	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)						6. Individ	Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)     X Form filed by One Reporting Person						
(Street)														Form filed by	More that	an One F	Reporting Per	son
MUNCIE	IN	47	305	F	Rule 10b5-1(c) Transaction Indication													
(City)	(State)	(Zi <sub>l</sub>	0)		Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10.													
			Table I - N	on-De	rivative	Securi	ties Acc	quired,	Disp	osed of	, or Be	eneficial	ly Owned					
Dat				Date	saction n/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any		3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 4. Securit				uired (A) or [ 5)	Disposed Of	5. Amount of Se Beneficially Ow Following Repo		Form:	Direct (D) or	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial
				ľ		(Month/	Day/Year)	Code	v	Amount		(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3			Ownership (Instr. 4)	
Common Stock			12/3	31/2023			A		589	9	A	\$37.08	\$37.08 12,726.9			D		
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)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Trans Code (In	nstr. 8)	5. Numbe Derivative Securities (A) or Dis (D) (Instr. 5)	Acquired posed of	6. Date Expirati (Month/	on Dat				8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	Derivative derivative Security Securities		10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercis		Expiration Date	Title		Amount or Number of Shares			nsaction(s)		

Explanation of Responses:

1. Includes Restricted Stock Awards totaling 6,322 shares.

## Remarks:

Jacob Burkett (Confirming Statement

on File)

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

01/03/2024

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.

## C F RM G STATEME T

This statement confirms that the undersigned, Michael Fisher, has authorized and designated, Jennifer Mainord, Melanie Bowling, and Jacob Burkett, to execute and file on the undersigned's behalf, all Form 3, 4, 5 and 144 (including amendments thereto) that the undersigned may be required to file with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission as a result of the undersigned's ownership of or transactions in securities of First Merchants Corporation. The authority of Jennifer Mainord, Melanie Bowling, and Jacob Burkett under this statement shall continue until the undersigned is no longer required to file Form 3, 4, 5, and 144 with regard to the undersigned ownership or transactions in securities of First Merchants Corporation, unless earlier revoked in writing. The undersigned acknowledges Jennifer Mainord, Melanie Bowling, and Jacob Burkett are not assuming any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Michael Fisher

Date:

12-11-23