UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 FORM 4
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 Instructions 1(b).
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person
GALLIHER, DAVID A.
2500 WEST BERWYN ROAD
MUNCIE, IN 47304
2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION
FRME
3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary) ###-#################################
4. Statement for Month/Year
April 1997
5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)
 Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) (X) Director () 10% Owner () Officer (give title below) () Other (specify below)

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

(X)	Form	filed	by	0ne	Report	ting	Person	•	•
()	Form	filed	by	More	than	0ne	Reporting	Person	

1. Title of Security	Tra 	3. nsacti e Cod	ion 	or	curities Acqui Disposed of (Amount		'I	5.Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	6.Di ect (D)o Indi ect(I	r İ r İ	of Indirect ial Ownership
Common Stock	04-0 1997			60.24	110	A 	29.05 	3383.49 (1) 	D 	 	
Common Stock		I					1	500	D	Self-Dire	cted IRA
Common Stock								605	I	Spouse-Ag	ency
								 		& IRA Acc	 ount
Table II Derivative	Securiti	tes Ac	 	ed, D	isposed of, c	or Be	neficially	Owned			
Table II Derivative			cquir						I8.Price	9.Number	10. 11.Nature of
1.Title of Derivative 2	2.Con-	3.	4.	5. n r	Number of De	6.D	Date Exer 7 sable and	.Title and Amount of Underlying	of Deri	of Deriva	Dir Indirect
1.Title of Derivative 2 Security v 0	2.Con- version or Exer	3.	4.	5. n r r	Number of Derivative Securities Acqui	6.D cis Exp	Date Exer 7 sable and piration	.Title and Amount	of Deri vative	of Deriva tive	Dir Indirect ect Beneficial
1.Title of Derivative 2 Security v 0 c	2.Con- version or Exer cise	3.	4.	5. n r r	Number of De rivative Secu rities Acqui red(A) or Dis	6.D cis Exp Dat	Date Exer 7 sable and piration te(Month/	.Title and Amount of Underlying	of Deri vative Secu	of Deriva tive Securities	Dir Indirect ect Beneficial (D) Ownership
1.Title of Derivative 2 Security v 0 c P	2.Con- version or Exer cise Price of	3.	4.	5. n r r	Number of Derivative Securities Acqui	6.D cis Exp Dat Day	Date Exer 7 Sable and Diration De(Month/	.Title and Amount of Underlying	of Deri vative Secu rity	of Deriva tive Securities Benefi	Dir Indirect ect Beneficial (D) Ownership or
1.Title of Derivative 2 Security v 0 c P	2.Con- version or Exer cise	3.	4.	5. n r r	Number of De rivative Secu- rities Acqui- red(A) or Dis- posed of(D)	6.D cis Exp Dat Day	Date Exer 7 Sable and Diration Dire(Month/ Dire(Year) Direc(Expir)	.Title and Amount of Underlying	of Deri vative Secu rity 	of Deriva tive Securities	Dir Indirect ect Beneficial (D) Ownership
1.Title of Derivative 2 Security v 0 c P D	2.Con- version or Exer cise Price of Deriva-	3.	4.	5. n r r	Number of De ivative Securities Acquired(A) or Disposed of(D)	6.D cis Exp Dat Dat Dat	Date Exer 7 Sable and Diration De(Month/	.Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	of Deri vative Secu rity 	of Deriva tive Securities Benefi ficially	Dir Indirect ect Beneficial (D) Ownership or Ind
1.Title of Derivative 2 Security v 0 c P D t	2.Con- version or Exer cise Price of Deriva- cive Gecu-	3. Transa	4. action 	5. n r r p 	Number of De ivative Securities Acquired(A) or Disposed of(D)	6.D cis Exp Dat Dat Dat	Date Exer 7 Sable and Diration Ee(Month/ V/Year) Ee Expir Er - ation Sa - Date	Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	of Deri vative Secu rity 	of Deriva tive Securities Benefi ficially Owned at	Dir Indirect ect Beneficial (D) Ownership or Ind ire
1.Title of Derivative 2 Security v 0 c P D t	2.Con- version or Exer cise Price of Deriva- cive Gecu-	3. Transa	4. action 	5. n r r p 	Number of De rivative Securities Acquired(A) or Disposed of(D)	6.D cis Exp Dat Dat Dat Exe cis	Date Exer 7 Sable and Diration Ee(Month/ V/Year) Ee Expir Er - ation Sa - Date	Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	of Deri vative Secu rity 	of Deriva tive Securities Benefi ficially Owned at End of	Dir Indirect ect Beneficial (D) Ownership or Ind ire ct
1.Title of Derivative 2 Security v 0 c P D t S	2.Con- version or Exer cise Price of Deriva- cive Gecu-	3. Transa	4. action 	5. n r r p 	Number of De rivative Securities Acquired(A) or Disposed of(D)	6.D cis Exp Dat Dat Dat Exe cis	Date Exer 7 Sable and Diration Ee(Month/ V/Year) Ee Expir Er - ation Sa - Date	Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	of Deri vative Secu rity 	of Deriva live Securities Benefi ficially Owned at End of Month	Dir Indirect ect Beneficial (D) Ownership or Ind ire ct (I)

Explanation of Responses:

(1) Includes 27.1147 shares acquired in March 1997 under the First Merchants Corporation dividend

reinvestment

plan.
SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON
David A. Galliher (Confirming Statement on File)

DATE

April 28, 1997