\square

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

OMB APPROVAL									
OMB Number:	3235-0287								
Estimated average bu	rden								
hours por response:	0 5								

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* Stewart Michael J (Last) (First) (Bast) (Middle) 200 E JACKSON STREET		erson*	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>FIRST MERCHANTS CORP</u> [FRME]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner V Officer (give title V Other (specify
		(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/23/2019	- X below) X below) Chief Banking Officer / Executive Vice President
(Street) MUNCIE (City)	IN (State)	47305 (Zip)	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)					5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		(1130.4)
Common Stock	12/23/2019		G	V	750	D	\$ <mark>0</mark>	65,381.491 ⁽¹⁾	D	
Common Stock								3,276.006	Ι	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)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transa Code (8)		5. Nur of Deriv Secur Acqu (A) or Dispo of (D) (Instr and 5	ative rities ired osed	Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) ed		7. Title Amour Securi Underl Deriva Securi and 4)	nt of ties ying tive ty (Instr. 3	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				

Explanation of Responses:

1. Includes Restricted Stock Awards totaling 32,329.556 shares

Remarks:

Jennifer Mainord (Confirming Statement on File)

12/24/2019

** 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.