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 hours per response:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4

FORM 4

| Check this box if no longer subjec or Form 5 obligations may continu | Filed pursuant to Section 15(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 | | | | | | | | | | hours per re | esponse: | 0.5 | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|------------------------------------|---|-------------|----------------------|---|------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person [*] LORENTSON JEFFREY B | | | | | | 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 X Officer (aive title below) X Other (specify below) | | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 200 E JACKSON STREET | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/31/2014 | | | | | | | | | Chief Risk Officer / Senior Vice President | | | | | |
| | NCIE IN 47305 | | | 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. Transacti Date (Month/Day | Year) if any | tion Date, | Code (Instr. 8) 3, 4 | | 3, 4 and 9 | | | | 5. Amount of Securiti Beneficially Owned F Reported Transactior | ollowing D | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. | |
| | | | | | | !· | h/Day/Year) | Code | v | Amount | | (A) or (D) | Price | (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | 4) | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | 014 | | Р | | | 19 | Α | \$18.394 | 12,643.536 | 1) | 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) | Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transac (Instr. 8) | tion Code | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | Expirat (Month | 6. Date Exercisable ar Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4 | | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number derivative Securities Beneficiall Owned Following Reported | Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercis | Date Exercisable | | | | Amount or Number of Sh | ares | Transactio (Instr. 4) | on(s) | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Includes Restricted Stock Awards totaling 4,195.308 shares

Remarks:

Jennifer Mai nord (Confirming Statement on

File)
** Signature of Reporting Person

04/02/2014 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.

CONFIRMING STATEMENT

This statement confirms that the undersigned, Jeffrey B. Lorentson, has authorized and designated, Jennifer Mainord, Amanda C. Williams or Rhonda Bost, to execut

__/s/ Jeffrey B. Lorentson_____ Jeffrey B. Lorentson

Date: February 13, 2014