FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPRO	DVAL			
OMB Number:	3235-0287			
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person $^\star$ Sherman Patrick A						2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [ FRME ]									ck all app	olicable)	g Person(s) to 10%	Issuer Owner
(Last) (First) (Middle) 200 E JACKSON STREET						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/03/2020									Offic belov	er (give title w)	Othe belov	r (specify v)
(Street) MUNCIE IN 47305 (City) (State) (Zip)						4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)								6. Ind Line)	Forn	dual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable  Form filed by One Reporting Person  Form filed by More than One Reporting  Person		
		Tabl	e I - No	n-Deriv	ative/	Se	curitie	s Ac	quired,	Dis	posed o	f, or E	Benef	icially	/ Owne	ed		
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transact Date (Month/Date						Execution Date			3. Transaction Code (Instr. 5) 4. Securit Disposed 5)						Securi Benefi Owned	cially I Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
									Code	v	Amount	(A) (D)	or P	rice	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)			(Instr. 4)
Common Stock 02/03/2							2020		P		12.484	. <i>I</i>	A   5	\$40.05	40,3	84.038(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 if any	f any C Month/Day/Year) 8		ansaction ode (Instr.		of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)  Date Exercisable Expiration Date			Amou or Number	r. 3	Price of trivative curity str. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4)	Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)

## **Explanation of Responses:**

1. Includes Restricted Stock Awards totaling 3,075 shares

## Remarks:

Addison Nicoll (Confirming Statement on File)

02/05/2020

\*\* 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.