

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
 BRACKEN, FRANK A
 5150 PLANTATION DRIVE
 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46250
 USA
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
 November 30, 2000
5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)
6. 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 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	2. Transaction Date	3. Transaction Code	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	6. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
			Amount	A/D	Price			
COMMON STOCK	10-01-99	S(1)	66	D	22.62			
	08-09-00	W(2)	900	D				
	08-09-00	W(3)	180	A		71,103.7287(4)	D	
						4,170	I	Spouse

Table II -- Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	8. Price of Derivative Security	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	10. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)								5,600	D	

Explanation of Responses:
 (1) Sale of 66 shares by the R.B. Bracken estate. Reporting person is the co-personal representative of said estate.
 (2) Distribution of 180 shares from the R.B. Bracken estate to each of the decedent's five (5) adult children.
 (3) Receipt of 180 shares from the R.B. Bracken estate by reporting person.
 (4) Includes 6.6961 shares acquired in September, 2000 under the First Merchants Corporation dividend reinvestment plan.

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON
 Frank A. Bracken (Confirming Statement on File)
 DATE
 December 1, 2000