FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| Vashington, | D.C. | 20549 | |
|-------------|------|-------|--|
| | | | |

| STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL | OWNERSHIP |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| | |

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: 3235-0287 | | | | | | | |
| Estimated average burden | | | | | | | |
| hours per response | e: 0.5 | | | | | | |

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

| Name and Address of Reporting Person* Stewart Michael J | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [FRME] | | | | | | | | (Chec | k all app Direc | onship of Reporting all applicable) Director Officer (give title | | 10% Ov | vner | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|---|--------|------------------------------|---|--------|--|---------|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|----------------|--|--|--|
| (Last) 200 E JA | (Fir | , | Middle) | | | Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 3/03/2022 | | | | | | X | below) Presi | | sident | Other (specibelow) | | | | |
| (Street) MUNCII (City) | | | 7305 Zip) | | 4. If A | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | 6. Indi Line) | ′ | | | | | |
| | | Table | I - No | n-Deriva | tive S | Secu | rities | Acq | uired | , Dis | posed of | , or E | Benef | icially | y Own | ed | | | | |
| Date | | 2. Transact Date (Month/Day | Execu y/Year) if any | | Deemed ution Date, / th/Day/Year) | | | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 5) | | 4 and Securit Benefic Owned | | ies cially Following | Form: Direct | | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) ((D) | or Pri | ice | Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | | (Instr. 4) | | |
| Common Stock 08/0 | | | 08/03/2 | 022 | | | | A | | 10,000 | A | \$40.95 | | 83,48 | 83,488.839(1) | | D | | | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0.007 | | | | 401(k) Plan | | | |
| | | Tal | | | | | | | | | osed of, convertib | | | | Owne | d | , | , | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | ative Conversion Date Execution Date, if any | | ion Date, | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 6. Date Expirat (Month | tion Da | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Ins 3 and 4) | | De Se (In | Price of erivative ecurity nstr. 5) | 9. Number derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | Owner Form: Direct or Indi (I) (Inst | Ownership | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercis | sable | Expiration Date | Title | Amou or Numb of Share | er | | | | | | |
| Explanation | n of Respons | ses: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

 $1. \ Includes \ Restricted \ Stock \ Awards \ totaling \ 37,826.453 \ shares$

Remarks:

Logan Edon (Confirming Statement on File)

08/05/2022

** 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.