FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

	OMB APPRO	DVAL
l	OMB Number:	3235-0287
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l	hours per response:	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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>ELLINGTON KIMBERLY J</u>							2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [FRME]								5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify						
(Last) (First) (Middle) 200 E JACKSON STREET						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/11/2011								X Officer (give title X Other (specify below) Director Human Resources / Senior Vice President							
Street) MUNCIE IN 47305 (City) (State) (Zip)						4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) 02/15/2011								Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person							
		Tab	le I - Noi	n-Deriv	ative	e Se	curitie	s Ac	quired	Dis	posed o	of, or Be	enefici	ally	Owned	<u> </u>					
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Date)						Executio			Code	Transaction Disposed Code (Instr. 5)		ities Acqui d Of (D) (In		4 and Securiti Benefici Owned I		es ally following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership		
									Code	v	Amount	(A) o	Price	9	Reported Transact (Instr. 3	ion(s)			(Instr. 4)		
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾ 02/11/2					1/2011	2011			A		2,50	0 A S		0	10,647.1002			D			
		7	able II -								osed of converti				Owned		,		•		
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security		3A. Deeme Execution if any (Month/Da	Date,	4. Transa Code (8)		ı of		6. Date Exercisal Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year			Amount of		S (I	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number derivative Securities Beneficial Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4)	i lly	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisal		xpiration ate	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	er							
Employee Stock Option - Right to Buy	\$9.2	02/11/2011			A		1,000		02/11/20	13 (02/11/2021	Common	1,000		\$0	28,057	7	D			

Explanation of Responses:

1. Includes 7,007.481 shares held in restricted stock awards and 287.8902 shares in reporting person's 401(k) account.

Remarks:

Larry R. Helms (Confirming Statement on File)

04/11/2011

** Signature of Reporting Person

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.