FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL								
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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 Leison					2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [FRME]										5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)					
						THE THE TOTAL TRANSPORT									X [Director		10% C	wner	
(Last) (First) (Middle) 200 E JACKSON STREET					3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 09/30/2011											Officer (give title below)		Other below)	(specify	
,					4. If	Ame	ndment,	Date o	f Original	Filed	(Month/Da	ay/Yea	ar)	6.	ndividu	ual or Joint/Grou	ıp Filiı	ng (Check A	pplicable	
(Street) MUNCII	E IN		17305			, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,								Lir	X	Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting				
(City)	(St	ate) (Zip)													Person			<u> </u>	
		Tabl	e I - Nor	n-Deriv	ative	Sec	curitie	s Acc	quired,	Dis	osed o	f, or	Bene	eficia	lly O	wned				
Date				2. Transa Date (Month/E		ar) E	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		Transaction Dispose Code (Instr. 5)		rities Acquired (A ed Of (D) (Instr. 3,			d Se Be	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported		Ownership rm: Direct or Indirect (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership		
										v	Amount		(A) or (D)	Price	Tr	ransaction(s) nstr. 3 and 4)			(Instr. 4)	
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾ 09/3				09/30	0/2011			A		1,418		A	\$0		28,268		D			
		Та	able II - C								sed of, onvertib				Own	ned				
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deems Execution if any (Month/Da	Date,	Code (I	saction le (Instr. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		ative rities ired osed . 3, 4	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) Date Expiration Exercisable Date			7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4) Amoun or Numbe of Title Shares		ount	8. Price Derivat Securit (Instr. 5	tive derivative sy Securities	у	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	

Explanation of Responses:

1. Non-employee director stock option (Right to Buy) = 9128

Remarks:

<u>Larry R. Helms (Confirming</u> Statement on File)

09/04/2011

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

 $Reminder: Report \ on \ a \ separate \ line \ for \ each \ class \ of \ securities \ beneficially \ owned \ directly.$

- * 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.