FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| Washington, I | D.C. | 20549 |
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|---------------|------|-------|

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 | | | | | | | |
| Estimated average t | ourden | | | | | | | |

0.5

hours per response:

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* Lehman Gary | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [FMRE] | | | | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | | | |
| <u>Lemman Gary</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | X | Directo | r | | 10% Ov | vner | |
| (Last) 200 E JA | (Fi | • | (Middle) | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/01/2011 | | | | | | | | | Officer below) | (give title | | Other (s below) | pecify | |
| PO BOX 792 | | | | | | | endment, | Date | of Origina | l Filed | d (Month/D | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable | | | | | | | | |
| (Street) | | | | | - 07/ | /06/2 | 2011 | | | | ` | | | Line) | Form t | iled hy One | Reno | ortina Perso | n | |
| MUNCI | E IN | 1 | 47308 | | | · · | | | | | | | | | | iled by Mor | ore than One Reporting | | | |
| (City) | (S | tate) | (Zip) | | - | | | | | | | | | | F 61301 | | | | | |
| | | Tab | le I - No | n-Deriv | vative | e Se | curitie | s Ac | quired | , Dis | posed o | of, or B | enefic | ially | Owned | l | | | | |
| Date | | | 2. Trans Date (Month/I | | ar) I | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | , Transaction Disposed Code (Instr. | | ties Acqui I Of (D) (In | | l and 5) Securiti Benefic Owned | | es ally Following | Form (D) o | n: Direct r Indirect str. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) (D) | or Pric | ce | Reporte Transac (Instr. 3 | tion(s) | | [| (Instr. 4) | |
| Common Stock 06/30/ | | | | | | 2011 | | | A | V | 559 | A | | \$ <mark>0</mark> | 11,659 | | | D | | |
| Common | Stock | | | 07/01 | 1/2011 | | | | P | | 187.60 |)2 A | \$8 | 3.884 11,846.602 D | | | | | | |
| | | 7 | able II - | | | | | | | | osed of converti | | | | Owned | | | | | |
| | | I | l | | | Can | 1 | _ | | | | | | | | | . 1 | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | | 3A. Deem Execution) if any (Month/Da | n Date, | 4. Transa Code (8) | | n of | | 6. Date Exercise Expiration Date (Month/Day/Yea | | e | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Secur (Instr. 3 and 4) | | S (1 | B. Price of Derivative Security Instr. 5) | 9. Number derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | ly | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisa | | Expiration Date | Title | Amou or Numb of Share | oer | | | | | | |
| Non- employee stock option (Right to | \$9.02 | 07/01/2011 | | | A | | 1,500 | | 01/01/20 | 12 (| 06/30/2021 | Common | 1,50 | 00 | \$0 | 1,500 | | D | | |

Explanation of Responses:

Remarks:

Larry R. Helms (Confirming Statement on File)

08/04/2011

** 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.