UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 FORM 4
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
THRASH, JAMES L
5509 GREYTHORN
MUNCIE, IN 47304
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
June 30, 2000
5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)
6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
() Director () 10% Owner (X) Officer (give title below) () Other
(specify below)
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
i individuat of source out i iting (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. 3. 4.Securities A Transaction or Disposed Date Code V Amount		5.Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	6.Dir 7.Nature of Indirect ect Beneficial Ownership (D)or Indir ect(I)
COMMON STOCK	06/30/ A 443	A 17.9828	14,142	D
	00			

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

1.Title of Derivative	2.Con-	3.	4.					7.Title and			e 9.Number	10. 11.Nature	
Security	version	Trans	action	rivativ	/e Secu	∣ cisa	able and	of Underly	ing	of Deri	i of Deriva	Dir Indirect	
	or Exer		1	rities	Acqui	Exp:	iration	Securities		vative	tive	ect Beneficia	al
	cise		1	red(A)	or Dis	Date	e(Month/			Secu	Securities	(D) Ownership	ρ
	Price of		1	posed o	of(D)	Day,	/Year)			rity	Benefi	or	
	Deriva-	1	1	1		Date	e Expir			1	ficially	Ind	
	tive	İ	Í	Ì	A	/ Exe	r- ation	Title and	Number	i i	Owned at	ire	
	Secu-	İ	Í I	Ì	j c) cisa	a- Date	of Shares		i i	End of	ct	
	rity	Date	Code	V Amount	: İ	ble	İ			İ	Month	(I)	
Employee Stock Option	1	I	1 1	1	I	I	I		I	I	8,000	D	
(Right to Buy)	i	i	i i	i	İ	i	i	İ	i	İ	Ì	i i	

Explanation of Responses: *4,395 shares exercisable January 29, 2000 and 605 shares exercisable January 1, 2001. SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON James L. Thrash (Confirming Signature on File)

DATE

July 3, 2000