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FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Check this box if no longer subjec	t to
Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5	
obligations may continue. See	
Instruction 1(b).	

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL								
3235-0287								
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	hours per response:	0.5
l	Estimated average burden	

1. Nume and Address of Reporting reison			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>FIRST MERCHANTS CORP</u> [FRME]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)					
				X	Director	10% Owner			
(Last) 200 E JACKSO	(First) N STREET	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 11/01/2011		Officer (give title below)	Other (specify below)			
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Indiv Line)	idual or Joint/Group Filing ((Check Applicable			
MUNCIE	IN	47305		X	Form filed by One Repor	0			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)			Person				
	_								

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	if any '			4. Securities A Disposed Of (5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		(11341.4)
Common Stock ⁽²⁾	11/01/2011		Р		12.246	A	\$8.166	38,736.781 ⁽¹⁾	D	

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transa Code (8)		of Deriv Secu Acqu (A) or Dispo of (D) (Instr	of Expiration		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)			8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	v			Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				

Explanation of Responses:

1. Non-Derivative Securities Owned Indirect: 551. Nature of Indirect Ownership: Spouse

2. Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to buy) = 6814 shares

Remarks:

Larry R. Helms (Confirming Statement on File)

11/03/2011

** 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.