FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 | | | | | | | | | |
| Estimated average burden | | | | | | | | | | |
| 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* Becher Michael R | | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [FRME] | | | | | | | | theck all a | hip of Reportir pplicable) ector | ., | o Issuer 6 Owner |
|--|---|--|---|--------|---|---|--|------|--|-----|---------------------|---|---------------|-------------|--|---|---|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 200 EAST JACKSON ST. | | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2013 | | | | | | | | | | icer (give title ow) | | er (specify ow) |
| (Street) MUNCIE (City) | | | 17305 Zip) | | 4. If | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Cl Line) X Form filed by One Reportin Form filed by More than On Person | | | | | | | | | | | e Reporting F | erson |
| | | Tabl | e I - Nor | -Deriv | ative | Sec | curitie | s Ac | quired, | Dis | posed o | f, or | Bene | eficia | lly Ow | ned | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Da | | | | | | Execution Date, | | | Transaction Disposed Code (Instr. 5) | | | ities Acquired (A) d Of (D) (Instr. 3, | | | nd Sec Ben Owr | mount of irities eficially ed Following orted | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | of Indirect Beneficial Ownership |
| | | | | | | | | | | v | Amount | (| (A) or (D) | Price | Trar | saction(s) r. 3 and 4) | | (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock 12/31/2 | | | | | | /2013 | | A | | 330 | | A | \$ |) | 3,303 ⁽¹⁾ | D | | |
| | | Та | ble II - D | | | | | | | | sed of, onvertib | | | | / Owne | d | | |
| 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, | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | n of | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4) | | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | | Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial Ownership ct (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisal | | Expiration Date | Title | Nun | nber res | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Includes Restricted Stock Awards totaling 2,753 shares

Remarks:

Jennifer Mainord (Confirming Statement on File)

01/03/2014

** 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.