FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| /ashington, | D.C. | 20549 | |
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APP | ROVAL | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 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* Sherman Patrick A | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [FRME] | | | | | | | | | ationship k all app Direc | , | | rson(s) to Is | | | | |
|--|--|--|--------------|---|---------|--|------|--|----------------|--|---|-------|---|--|--------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 200 E JACKSON STREET | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/01/2020 | | | | | | | | | Office below | er (give title v) | | Other (s | specify | | | |
| (Street) MUNCII (City) | | | 7305 Zip) | | 4. If A | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | 6. Indi ₋ine) X | Form Form | ral or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable 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 (Instr. 3) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/ | | | | Execution Date, | | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 4. Securities Acquir Disposed Of (D) (Ins | | | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported | | 6. Ownershi Form: Direc (D) or Indire (I) (Instr. 4) | | of Indirect | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) oi (D) | Price | | Transad (Instr. 3 | ction(s) | | | (4150.4) | | | |
| Common Stock 12/01/20 | | | | 020 | | P | | 14.473 | Α | \$34. | 4.548 46,5 | | 529.845 ⁽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) | if any | eemed tion Date, h/Day/Year) | | saction le (instr. Seurities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr 3 and 4) | | | | 9. Number derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | , | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | | |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exerci | sable | Expiration Date | Title | or Number of Shares | | | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Includes Restricted Stock Awards totaling 3,813 shares

Remarks:

Jennifer Mainord (Confirming 12/02/2020 Statement on File)

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

** 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.

^{*} If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).