

FIRST MERCHANTS CORP
 Form 4
 July 30, 2015

FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 Stewart Michael J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 FIRST MERCHANTS CORP
 [FRME]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 200 E JACKSON STREET

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 07/28/2015

___ Director ___ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
 Chief Banking Officer / Executive Vice President

(Street)
 MUNCIE, IN 47305

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 ___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount or Price		
Common Stock	07/28/2015		M		2,000 A \$ 15.32	D	
Common Stock	07/28/2015		M		7,500 A \$ 11.38	D	
Common Stock	07/28/2015		M		8,000 A \$ 11.14	D	
Common Stock	07/28/2015		F		8,116 D \$ 26.08	D	
Common Stock						I	401(k) Plan
					3,039.018		

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

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(9-02)

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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities 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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 15.32	07/28/2015		M	2,000	02/19/2015 02/19/2023	Common Stock	2,000
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 11.38	07/28/2015		M	7,500	02/23/2014 02/23/2022	Common Stock	7,500
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 11.14	07/28/2015		M	8,000	02/24/2011 02/24/2019	Common Stock	8,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Stewart Michael J 200 E JACKSON STREET MUNCIE, IN 47305			Chief Banking Officer	Executive Vice President

Signatures

Deanna Brass (Confirming Statement
on File)

07/30/2015

__Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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).

(1) Includes Restricted Stock Awards totaling 23,675.66 shares

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.
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