Sherman Patrick A Form 4 April 03, 2012

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

Check this box

obligations may continue.

(Middle)

(Zip)

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

1(b).

(Last)

(City)

(Print or Type Responses)

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Sherman Patrick A

(First)

(State)

200 E JACKSON STREET

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

FIRST MERCHANTS CORP

[FRME]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 03/31/2012

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

_X__ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title _ Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

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

MUNCIE, IN 47305

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securit for Dispos (Instr. 3, 4	ed of (` ′	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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	03/31/2012		A	506	A	\$0	21,095.566	D	
Common Stock (1) (2)	04/02/2012		P	40.843	A	\$ 12.242	21,136.409	D	

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

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

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date		4.	5.	6. Date Exer		7. Title		8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	orNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amou	nt of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security	Secur
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securi	ties	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr.	3 and 4)		Own
	Security				Acquired						Follo
					(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration		or		
						Exercisable	Date	Title	Γitle Number		
						Lacicisable			of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address 10% Owner Officer Other Director

Sherman Patrick A 200 E JACKSON STREET X MUNCIE, IN 47305

Signatures

Justin Bates (Confirming Statement 04/03/2012 on File)

> **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) Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy) = 4,500 shares
- (2) Includes 8,136 shares held in restricted stock awards.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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