HOY WILLIAM L Form 4 July 03, 2012

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

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

Check this box

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

06/30/2012

Stock (1) (2)

1(b).

HOY WILLIAM L Issuer Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORP (Check all applicable) [FRME] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) 200 E JACKSON STREET 06/30/2012

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line)

> _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

> > D

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Person

20,018

MUNCIE, IN 47305

(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of 3.

Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Beneficially Beneficial Disposed of (D) (D) or (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned Ownership (Instr. 8) Indirect (I) Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported

401

(A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Amount (D) Price

Α

\$0

Code Common

Α

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)

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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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number proof 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 Amou Underlying Securi (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amo or Nun of Shar
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 12.46	06/30/2012		A	1,500	01/01/2013	06/30/2022	Common Stock	1,5

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
r	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
HOY WILLIAM L 200 E JACKSON STREET MUNCIE, IN 47305	X						

Signatures

Justin Bates (Confirming Statement on File) 07/03/2012

**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) = 7,157
- (2) Includes 7,351 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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