

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/  
Form 8-K  
December 05, 2005

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# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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## FORM 8-K

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CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report: December 5, 2005

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# FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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Ohio  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

0-12379  
(Commission File Number)

31-1042001  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

300 High Street  
Hamilton, Ohio  
(Address of principal executive offices)

45011  
(Zip Code)

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Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (513) 867-5447

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**First Financial Bancorp.**

**Item 8.01 Other Events.**

On December 5, 2005, First Financial Bancorp. issued a press release announcing the preliminary results of its tender offer. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

**Item 9.01 Exhibits.**

(c) Exhibit:

99.1 First Financial Bancorp. Press Release dated December 5, 2005.

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP.**

By: /s/ J. Franklin Hall

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J. Franklin Hall  
Senior Vice President and

Chief Financial Officer

Date: December 5, 2005

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First Financial Bancorp.

**Exhibit Index**

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	First Financial Bancorp. Press Release dated December 5, 2005