

ELLINGTON KIMBERLY J
 Form 3
 May 09, 2005

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL
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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *			2. Date of Event Requiring Statement		3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	
Â ELLINGTON KIMBERLY J			(Month/Day/Year)		FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [FRME]	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	05/06/2005		4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer	
200 EAST JACKSON STREET					5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	
(Street)					(Check all applicable)	
MUNCIE,Â INÂ 47305					6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)			<input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (give title below) (specify below) Senior Vice President / Director Human Resources	
					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person	

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	766.082 ⁽¹⁾	D	Â

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security Direct (D) or Indirect	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title Amount or Number of			

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				Shares		(I) (Instr. 5)	
Employee Stock Options (Right to Buy)	07/01/2003	07/01/2011	Common Stock	914	\$ 19.73	D	Â
Employee Stock Options (Right to Buy)	07/01/2004	07/01/2012	Common Stock	3,308	\$ 26.93	D	Â
Employee Stock Options (Right to Buy)	07/01/2005	07/01/2013	Common Stock	3,150	\$ 23.46	D	Â
Employee Stock Options (Right to Buy)	07/01/2006	07/01/2014	Common Stock	3,600	\$ 25.595	D	Â
Deferred Stock Units	12/31/2005	12/31/2005	Common Stock	50.23	\$ <u>(2)</u>	D	Â
Deferred Stock Units	12/31/2006	12/31/2006	Common Stock	131.26	\$ <u>(2)</u>	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
ELLINGTON KIMBERLY J 200 EAST JACKSON STREET MUNCIE, IN 47305	Â	Â	Â Senior Vice President	Director Human Resources

Signatures

Kimberly J. Ellington 05/09/2005

__Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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 102.9482 shares owned by reporting person in her 401K account.
- (2) Conversion of derivative security is 1 for 1.

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.