

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL	
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* RECHIN MICHAEL C (Last) (First) (Middle) 200 E JACKSON STREET (Street) MUNCIE IN 47305 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [FRME]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director _____ 10% Owner _____ Officer (give title below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) _____ Chief Executive Officer / President
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/01/2017	
4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	03/01/2017		M		15,000	A	\$28.25	114,628.121	D	
Common Stock	03/01/2017		M		5,000	A	\$15.32	119,628.121	D	
Common Stock	03/01/2017		F		1,346	D	\$40.67	118,282.121	D	
Common Stock	03/01/2017		S		11,461	D	\$40.67	106,821.121	D	
Common Stock	03/01/2017		S		5,000	D	\$40.67	101,821.121 ⁽¹⁾	D	
Common Stock								4,673.227	I	by 401k

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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$28.25	03/01/2017		M			15,000	02/27/2010	02/27/2018	Common Stock	15,000	\$0	0	D	
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$15.32	03/01/2017		M			5,000	02/19/2015	02/19/2023	Common Stock	5,000	\$0	0	D	

Explanation of Responses:

1. Includes Restricted Stock Awards totaling 29,117.617 shares

Remarks:

Exhibit 24; Confirming Statement

Adlison Nicoll (Confirming Statement on File) 03/03/2017

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

* 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).

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.

CONFIRMING STATEMENT

This statement confirms that the undersigned, Michael C. Rechin, has authorized and designated, Jennifer Mainord and Addison Nicoll, to execute and file on the t

Date: November 3, 2016

/s/ Michael C. Rechin