FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL								
OMB Number:	3235-0287							
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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* <u>LORENTSON JEFFREY B</u>						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						
(Last) (First) (Middle) 200 E JACKSON STREET						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/11/2011								X Officer (give title X Other (specify below)  Chief Risk Officer / Senior Vice President						
(Street)  MUNCIE IN 47305  (City) (State) (Zip)						4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) 02/15/2011								Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)     X Form filed by One Reporting Person     Form filed by More than One Reporting Person						
		Tab	le I - No	n-Deriv	vative	Se	curitie	s Ac	quired,	Dis	posed o	of, or Be	neficia	ly Ow	nec	l				
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Da						Execution Date,			3. 4. Securities Acquire Disposed Of (D) (Ins 5) 8)			ed (A) or str. 3, 4 and	I Sec Ben Owi		s illy ollowing	Form (D) o	n: Direct r Indirect istr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership		
									Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Tran	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)				(Instr. 4)	
Common Stock 02/11/2					1/2011	2011			A		1,250 A		\$0	8,	8,512.0624(1)		D			
		7	able II -						uired, D					/ Own	ed					
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deeme Execution if any (Month/Day	Date,	4. Transa Code ( 8)		n of		6. Date Exercisa Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year			Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative	7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		e of tive ty 5)	9. Number derivative Securities Beneficial Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4)	illy	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisabl		Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares							
Employee Stock Option - Right to	\$9.2	02/11/2011			A		1,750		02/11/2013	3 0	2/11/2021	Common	1,750	\$0		6,250		D		

## **Explanation of Responses:**

1. Includes 5,757.481 shares held in restricted stock awards.

## Remarks:

Larry R. Helms (Confirming Statement on File)

04/11/2011

\*\* 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.