

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

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

| OMB APPROVAL                                 |           |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------|
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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*</b><br><u>LORENTSON JEFFREY B</u><br><br>(Last) (First) (Middle)<br><u>200 E JACKSON STREET</u><br><br>(Street)<br><u>MUNCIE IN 47305</u><br><br>(City) (State) (Zip) | <b>2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol</b><br><u>FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [ FRME ]</u> | <b>5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer</b><br>(Check all applicable)<br>Director 10% Owner<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)<br><u>Chief Risk Officer / Senior Vice President</u> |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)</b><br><u>06/28/2019</u>               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)</b>                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                            | <b>6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)</b><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person<br><input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person                                                                    |

**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                    | 06/28/2019                           |                                                    | A                              | V | 10                                                                | A          | \$31.926 | 16,310.312 <sup>(1)</sup>                                                                     | D                                                        |                                                       |

**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) |   | 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) |                                                                                   |                                            |                                                                                                    |                                                           |                                                        |

**Explanation of Responses:**

1. Includes Restricted Stock Awards totaling 1,241.402 shares

**Remarks:**

Addison Nicoll (Confirming Statement on File) 07/02/2019

\*\* 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.