FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

	OMB APPROVAL	
OWNERSHIP	OMB Number:	3235-02

87 Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

6. Ownership

5. Amount of

7. Nature

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person (Check all applicable) FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [FRME] Halderman Howard ✓ Director 10% Owner 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) Officer (give title Other (specify 06/30/2024 (First) (Middle) below) below) (Last) 200 E JACKSON ST 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) 1 Form filed by One Reporting Person (Street) Form filed by More than One Reporting **MUNCIE** 47305 Person Rule 10b5-1(c) Transaction Indication (City) (State) (Zip) Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10. Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and of Indirect Beneficial **Execution Date** Form: Direct (Month/Day/Year) Beneficially (D) or Indirect if any Code (Instr. (Month/Day/Year 8) Owned Following (I) (Instr. 4) Ownership Reported (Instr. 4) (A) or (D) Transaction(s) ٧ Price Code Amount (Instr. 3 and 4) Common Stock 06/30/2024 \$33.29 D 704 Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

Transaction

2A. Deemed

(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) 1. Title of 3. Transaction 3A. Deemed 5. Number 6. Date Exercisable and 7. Title and 8. Price of 9. Number of 10. 11. Nature Transaction Code (Instr. Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) Derivative Conversion **Execution Date** Amount of derivative Ownership of Indirect (Month/Day/Year) Derivative or Exercise if any Security Securities Securities Beneficial Security Form: (Instr. 3) Price of Derivative (Month/Day/Year) 8) Securities Underlying (Instr. 5) Beneficially Direct (D) Ownership or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) Acquired Security (Instr. 3 and 4) Security (A) or Following Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) and 5) Amount or Number Date Expiration Shares Date

Explanation of Responses:

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)

1. Includes Restricted Stock Awards totaling 7.377 shares

Remarks:

Jacob Burkett (Confirming Statement on File)

07/02/2024

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

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

2. Transaction

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.

^{*} 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).