

OMB APPROVAL	
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Fehring Patrick J.</u> _____ (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>200 E JACKSON STREET</u> _____ (Street) <u>MUNCIE IN 47305</u> _____ (City) (State) (Zip)			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>FIRST MERCHANTS CORP [FRME]</u>		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)	
			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>05/30/2024</u>			
			4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person	
Rule 10b5-1(c) Transaction Indication <input type="checkbox"/> 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

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	05/30/2024		M		999	A	\$14.17	123,705 ⁽¹⁾	D	
Common Stock	05/30/2024		M		10,383	A	\$18.01	134,088 ⁽¹⁾	D	
Common Stock	05/30/2024		M		12,554	A	\$21.79	146,642 ⁽¹⁾	D	
Common	05/30/2024		S		23,936	D	\$32.51	122,706 ⁽¹⁾	D	
Common								20,605	I	By Spouse

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					
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (right to buy)	\$14.17	05/30/2024		M			999	07/17/2017	07/17/2024	Common Stock 999	\$0	0	D	
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (right to buy)	\$18.01	05/30/2024		M			10,383	07/16/2018	07/16/2025	Common Stock 10,383	\$0	0	D	
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (right to buy)	\$21.79	05/30/2024		M			12,554	02/18/2019	02/18/2026	Common Stock 12,554	\$0	0	D	

Explanation of Responses:

1. Includes Restricted Stock Awards totaling 5,007 shares.

Remarks:

Jacob Burkett (Confirming Statement on File) 05/31/2024

** 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.