

FIRST MERCHANTS CORP  
Form 4  
March 02, 2006

**FORM 4**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

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).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
MCAULIFFE THOMAS

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
FIRST MERCHANTS CORP  
[FRME]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
02/15/2006

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

4187 OLENTANGY BLVD

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

COLUMBUS, OH 43214

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V Amount or Price			
Common Stock <sup>(1)</sup> <u>(2)</u> <u>(3)</u>	02/18/2006		S	100	D \$ 25.5	32,455	D	
Common Stock	02/18/2006		S	2,897	D \$ 25.3818	29,558	D	
Common Stock	02/18/2006		S	700	D \$ 25.38	28,858	D	
Common Stock	02/18/2006		S	300	D \$ 25.48	28,558	D	
Common Stock	02/18/2006		S	3	D \$ 25.39	28,555	D	

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Common Stock	02/24/2006	S	1,900	D	\$ 25.63	26,655	D
Common Stock	02/24/2006	S	100	D	\$ 25.62	26,555	D
Common Stock	02/24/2006	S	100	D	\$ 25.58	26,455	D
Common Stock	02/24/2006	S	800	D	\$ 25.57	25,655	D
Common Stock	02/24/2006	S	800	D	\$ 25.43	24,855	D
Common Stock	02/24/2006	S	35	D	\$ 25.44	24,820	D
Common Stock	02/24/2006	S	750	D	\$ 25.3828	24,070	D

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

**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 control number.**

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(9-02)

**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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 3 and 4)
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## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
MCAULIFFE THOMAS 4187 OLENTANGY BLVD COLUMBUS, OH 43214	X			

## Signatures

Larry R. Helms (Confirming Statement  
on File)

03/02/2006

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* 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).

(1) Deferred Stock Units Owned Direct: 652.31

(2) Beneficially Owned Securities: 8,398. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership: Spouse

(3) Number of Beneficial Securities Deriatively Owned: 20,450. Nature of Derivative Ownership: Option to Purchase Shares.

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

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