

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/
Form 4
January 18, 2005

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 *
IMMELT MARK W

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/ [FFBC]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
371 HEATHWOOD
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
01/17/2005

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
Executive Officer of Affiliate

HAMILTON, OH 45013
(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | | | Code | V Amount (A) or (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 01/17/2005 | | J(1) | 2,346 A \$ 0 | 21,759 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 1,749.7939 | I | 401-K |
| Common Stock | 01/17/2005 | | J(2) | 3,793 D \$ 0 | 21,859 | I | Restricted |

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

number.

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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|----------------------------|
| | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| 1997 (ISO) Stock Option | \$ 11.1342 | | | | | 01/28/1997 | 01/28/2007 | Common Stock | 1,640 |
| 1998 (ISO) Stock Option | \$ 19.087 | | | | | 01/27/1998 | 01/27/2008 | Common Stock | 5,238 |
| 1998 (NQ) Stock Option | \$ 19.087 | | | | | 01/27/1998 | 01/27/2008 | Common Stock | 7,468 |
| 1999 (ISO) Stock Option | \$ 19.1017 | | | | | 01/25/1999 | 01/25/2009 | Common Stock | 4,201 |
| 1999 (NQ) Stock Option | \$ 19.1017 | | | | | 01/25/1999 | 01/25/2009 | Common Stock | 13,124 |
| 2000 (ISO) Stock Option | \$ 17.56 | | | | | 01/24/2001 | 01/24/2010 | Common Stock | 5,694 |
| 2000 (NQ) Stock Option | \$ 17.56 | | | | | 01/24/2001 | 01/24/2010 | Common Stock | 28,116 |
| | \$ 16.0124 | | | | | 01/22/2002 | 01/22/2011 | | 6,244 |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|--|------------|------------|-----------------|-------|
| 2001 (ISO) Stock Option | | | | | Common Stock | |
| 2001 (NQ) Stock Option | \$ 16.0124 | | 01/22/2002 | 01/22/2011 | Common Stock | 4,256 |
| 2002 (ISO) Stock Option | \$ 17.2 | | 01/17/2003 | 01/17/2012 | Common Stock | 5,813 |
| 2002 (NQ) Stock Option | \$ 17.2 | | 01/17/2003 | 01/17/2012 | Common Stock | 4,187 |
| 2003 (ISO) Stock Option | \$ 16.58 | | 01/22/2004 | 01/22/2013 | Common Stock | 6,031 |
| 2003 (NQ) Stock Option | \$ 16.58 | | 01/22/2004 | 01/22/2013 | Common Stock | 3,969 |
| 2004 (ISO) Stock Option | \$ 17.09 | | 01/21/2005 | 01/21/2014 | Common Stock | 2,500 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| IMMELT MARK W 371 HEATHWOOD HAMILTON, OH 45013 | | | Executive Officer of Affiliate | |

Signatures

Terri J. Ziepfel 01/18/2005
 **Signature of Date
 Reporting Person

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).

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- (1) Vesting of Restricted Stock Award (less shares sold to cover taxes)
- (2) Vesting of Restricted Stock Award

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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