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FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/ Form 4 February 22, 2017 OMB APPROVAL FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB 3235-0287 Washington, D.C. 20549 Number: Check this box January 31, Expires: if no longer 2005 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF subject to Estimated average **SECURITIES** Section 16. burden hours per Form 4 or response... 0.5 Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction 1(b). (Print or Type Responses) 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Sorg William J Issuer Symbol FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP (Check all applicable) /OH/ [FFBC] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner X_Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) below) 255 EAST 5TH STREET, SUITE 02/17/2017 SVP, Chief Risk Officer 2900 (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) Filed(Month/Day/Year) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting CINCINNATI, OH 45202 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) any Code (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned Ownership Indirect (I) Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Common 490 (1) 02/17/2017 Ι Restricted A А 6,453 28.4 Stock Common 02/17/2017 D 490⁽²⁾ D 5,963 Ι Restricted Stock 28.4 Common 302 (3) A 02/17/2017 A 2,291 D Stock

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

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displays a currently valid OMB control 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)	4. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. ofNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		ate	7. Title Amou Under Securi (Instr.	nt of lying	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secu Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
			Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
Sorg William J 255 EAST 5TH STREET SUITE 2900 CINCINNATI, OH 45202			SVP, Chief Risk Officer				
Signatures							
/s/ Billie I							

/s/ Billie L. Meents, POA

02/22/2017

Date

**Signature of 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).
- (1) Award of stock pursuant to FFBC incentive plan.
- (2) Vesting of Restricted Stock Award.
- (3) Vesting of Restricted Stock Award less shares used for taxes. Shares were awarded and immediately vested pursuant to the Company's short-term incentive plan.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.