FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/

Form 4

May 02, 2007

FORM 4

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

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 * BARBERCHECK RICHARD S	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)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 04/30/2007	_____ Director _____ 10% Owner __X__ Officer (give title _____ Other (specify below) below) SVP & CRO
300 HIGH STREET (Street)	4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person ___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
HAMILTON, OH 45011		
(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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	04/30/2007		A		2,700	A	$ 0	4,900	I	Restrictred

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.

SEC 1474 (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. D D S (I
								Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)					
2006 (ISO) Stock Option	$ 16.02							04/24/2007	04/24/2016	Common Stock	6,242	
2006 (NQ) Stock Option	$ 16.02							04/24/2007	04/24/2016	Common Stock	6,858	
2007 (ISO) Stock Option	$ 14.9	04/30/2007		A		6,711		04/30/2008	04/30/2017	Common Stock	6,711	
2007 (NQ) Stock Option	$ 14.9	04/30/2007		A		9,489		04/30/2008	04/30/2017	Common Stock	9,489	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BARBERCHECK RICHARD S 300 HIGH STREET HAMILTON, OH 45011			SVP & CRO	

Signatures

Terri J. Ziepfel	05/02/2007
**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).

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

Explanation of Responses: 3