ELLINGTON KIMBERLY J
Form 3
May 09, 2005

FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *
Â ELLINGTON KIMBERLY J
(Last) (First) (Middle)

200 EAST JACKSON STREET
(Street)

MUNCIE,Â INÂ 47305
(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year)
05/06/2005

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

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
(Check all applicable)
_____ Director
_____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title below)
__X__ Other (specify below)
Senior Vice President / Director Human Resources

5. 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

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1.Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	766.082 (1)	D	Â

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (*e.g.*, puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of			

				Shares		(I) (Instr. 5)	
Employee Stock Options (Right to Buy)	07/01/2003	07/01/2011	Common Stock	914	$ 19.73	D	Â
Employee Stock Options (Right to Buy)	07/01/2004	07/01/2012	Common Stock	3,308	$ 26.93	D	Â
Employee Stock Options (Right to Buy)	07/01/2005	07/01/2013	Common Stock	3,150	$ 23.46	D	Â
Employee Stock Options (Right to Buy)	07/01/2006	07/01/2014	Common Stock	3,600	$ 25.595	D	Â
Deferred Stock Units	12/31/2005	12/31/2005	Common Stock	50.23	$ (2)	D	Â
Deferred Stock Units	12/31/2006	12/31/2006	Common Stock	131.26	$ (2)	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
ELLINGTON KIMBERLY J 200 EAST JACKSON STREET MUNCIE,Â INÂ 47305	Â	Â	Â Senior Vice President	Director Human Resources

Signatures

Kimberly J. Ellington	05/09/2005
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date

Explanation of Responses:

***** If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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) Includes 102.9482 shares owned by reporting person in her 401K account.

(2) Conversion of derivative security is 1 for 1.

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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