HARDWICK MARK K
Form 4
October 02, 2009

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:	3235-0287
Expires:	January 31, 2005
Estimated average burden hours per response...	0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. *See* Instruction 1(b).

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

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 * **HARDWICK MARK K**	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) 09/30/2009	_____ Director 　　_____ 10% Owner __X__ Officer (give title __X__ Other (specify below) 　　　　below) Executive Vice President / Chief Financial Officer
200 EAST JACKSON 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
MUNCIE, IN 47304		
(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 (2) (3)	09/30/2009		A		476	A	$ 6.2985	17,786.7703 (1)	D	

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

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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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Tran (Instr
									Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		
				Code	V	(A)	(D)							

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
HARDWICK MARK K 200 EAST JACKSON STREET MUNCIE, IN 47304			Executive Vice President	Chief Financial Officer

Signatures

Larry R. Helms (Confirming Statement on File)	10/02/2009
**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) Includes 8,300 restricted stock awards and 5,627.7703 shares in reporting person's 401(K) account.

(2) Non-Derivative Securities Owned Indirect: 401. Nature of Indirect Ownership: Spouse I.R.A.

(3) Employee Stock Option - Right to Buy equals 56,658 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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