

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/

Form 4

January 23, 2003

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person  
Murrell, III, C. Thomas  
10946 Allenhurst Blvd., East  
Cincinnati, OH 45241
2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
First Financial Bancorp (FFBC)
3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)  
301-38-1937
4. Statement for Month/Day/Year  
01/22/2003
5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)
6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  
 Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
 Executive Officer
7. 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	2. Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/ Year)	2A.Execu- tion Date (Month/ Day/ Year)	3. Trans- action Code +-----+ Code  V	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Amount  A/D Price	5. Amo  Securi  Benefi  Owned  Follow +Report +Transa
Common Stock			A	7000	2525
Common Stock	01/22/2003			A \$0.0000	13977