

gehlmann gregory a
 Form 4
 May 02, 2007

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 gehlmann gregory a

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)
 300 HIGH STREET
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 04/30/2007

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 SVP/Corporate General Counsel

HAMILTON, OH 45011
 (City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. 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 (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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price			
Common Stock					200	D	
Common Stock					154.012	I	401K
Common Stock	04/30/2007		A	4,500 A \$ 0	9,600	I	Restricted

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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)	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)
				Code V (A) (D)		Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title Amount or Number of Shares
2005 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 18.63					06/21/2006 06/21/2016	Common Stock 5,367
2005 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 18.63					06/21/2006 06/21/2016	Common Stock 6,033
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 10,258
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	12,889	04/30/2008 04/30/2017	Common Stock 12,889

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
gehlmann gregory a 300 HIGH STREET			SVP/Corporate General Counsel	

HAMILTON, OH 45011

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.

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