

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/

Form 4

May 18, 2006

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
PORTER BARRY 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)
385 OLIVER ROAD
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
05/18/2006

☒ Director ☐ 10% Owner
☐ Officer (give title below) ☐ Other (specify below)

CINCINNATI, OH 45215

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

(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)
Common Stock				(A) or (D)	Price		
FFBC (Directors Fee Stock Plan)	05/18/2006		P	50 ⁽¹⁾	A \$ 16.03	4,609	D
Common Stock						3,766	I Restricted

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**

SEC 1474
(9-02)

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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 or Value of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
2000 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 16.9048					04/25/2001	04/25/2010	Common Stock	8,663	
2003 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 15.58					04/22/2004	04/22/2013	Common Stock	8,663	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
PORTER BARRY S 385 OLIVER ROAD CINCINNATI, OH 45215	X

Signatures

Terri J. Ziepfel 05/18/2006

**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) Additional shares purchased resulting from correction to fees paid to directors for 1st qrt 2006.

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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