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FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/ Form 4 May 01, 2008 OMB APPROVAL FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB 3235-0287 Washington, D.C. 20549 Number: Check this box January 31, Expires: if no longer 2005 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF subject to Estimated average **SECURITIES** Section 16. burden hours per Form 4 or response... 0.5 Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction 1(b). (Print or Type Responses) 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading HALL J FRANKLIN Issuer Symbol FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP (Check all applicable) /OH/ [FFBC] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner X_Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) below) 4000 SMITH RD., SUITE 400 04/30/2008 SVP & CFO (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting CINCINNATI, OH 45209 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of 6. 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Securities Ownership Indirect (Instr. 3) any Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Beneficially Form: Direct Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) (D) or Ownership (Instr. 8) Owned Following Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) Reported (Instr. 4) (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Common S **J**(1) 04/30/2008 1.175 A 10,980 D Stock 13.12 Common I 401-K 1,174.921 Stock Restricted Common 04/30/2008 **J**(1) 1,175 D \$0 12,375 I Stock Stock Awards

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

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displays a currently valid OMB control 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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. onNumber 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
2000 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 17.56					01/24/2001	01/24/2010	Common Stock	5,694
2000 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 17.56					01/24/2001	01/24/2010	Common Stock	1,078
2001 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 16.0124					01/22/2002	01/22/2011	Common Stock	5,250
2002 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 17.2					01/17/2003	01/17/2012	Common Stock	5,000
2003 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 16.58					01/22/2004	01/22/2013	Common Stock	6,031
2003 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 16.58					01/22/2004	01/22/2013	Common Stock	3,969
2004 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 17.09					01/21/2005	01/21/2014	Common Stock	2,500

8. Pri Deriv Secur (Instr

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2005 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 17.51	04/18/2006	04/18/2015	Common Stock	5,711
2005 (NQ) Sock Option	\$ 17.51	04/18/2006	04/18/2015	Common Stock	8,589
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	11,058
2007 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 14.9	04/30/2008	04/30/2017	Common Stock	6,711
2007 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 11.64	02/14/2009	02/14/2018	Common Stock	43,909
2007 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 14.9	04/30/2008	04/30/2017	Common Stock	12,489
2008 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 11.64	02/14/2009	02/14/2018	Common Stock	8,591

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
1	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
HALL J FRANKLIN 4000 SMITH RD. SUITE 400 CINCINNATI, OH 45209			SVP & CFO				

Signatures

Terri J. Ziepfel

05/01/2008

<u>**</u>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) Vesting of Restricted Stock Award

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.