FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/

Form 4

January 09, 2006

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

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5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

Symbol

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

POSEY STEVEN C

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

				FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/ [FFBC]				RP	(Check all applicable)			
(Last) (First) (Middle) 60B S. AMERICAN WAY			Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/06/2006					_X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)			
			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				
MONROE, OH 45050									Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
	(City)	City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned									eficially Owned	
	1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemo Execution any (Month/Da	Date, if	Code (Instr. 8)	4. Security on (A) or Di (D) (Instr. 3,	sposed	d of	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								131	D		
	FFBC (Directors Fee Stock Plan)	01/06/2006			P	195	A	\$ 18.1	4,490	D		
	Common Stock								6,668	I	IRA	
	Common Stock								3,180	I	Trust	
									38,077	I		

Common Trust(TEAZAK Stock LTD)

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

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(9-02)

8. Pri Deriv Secur (Instr

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
1997 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 13.148					04/22/1998	04/22/2007	Common Stock	6,195
2000 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 20.671					04/22/2000	04/22/2009	Common Stock	8,663
2002 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 18.84					04/23/2003	04/23/2012	Common Stock	8,663
2005 (NQ) Sock Option	\$ 17.08					04/26/2006	04/26/2015	Common Stock	8,663

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Reporting Owners 2

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POSEY STEVEN C 60B S. AMERICAN WAY X MONROE, OH 45050

Signatures

Terri J. Ziepfel 01/09/2006

**Signature of 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. 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.

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