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FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/

Form 4 July 07, 2006

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

Expires: January 31, 2005

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

obligations
may continue.

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

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See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person ** FINNERTY CORINNE R			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer		
			FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/ [FFBC]	(Check all applicable)		
(Last) P.O. BOX 90	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/06/2006	X Director 10% Owner Other (specify below) below)		
	(Street)		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		
NORTH VERNON, IN 47265				Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

(City)	(State)	Zip) Table	e I - Non-D	erivative	Secur	ities Acqu	uired, Disposed o	f, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
Common Stock			Code V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	(Instr. 4)	
FFBC (Directors Fee Stock Plan)	07/06/2006		P	213	A	\$ 15.14	4,824	D	
Common Stock							20,086	I	joint w/spouse

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 (9-02)

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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)		re e	7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and	Securities	8 1 5 (
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
1998 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 21.5958					04/28/1999	04/28/2008	Common Stock	6,195	
2001 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 15.6					04/24/2002	04/24/2011	Common Stock	8,663	
2004 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 17.63					04/27/2005	04/27/2014	Common Stock	8,663	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
FB	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
FINNERTY CORINNE R P.O. BOX 90 NORTH VERNON, IN 47265	X					

Signatures

Terri J. Ziepfel	07/07/2006			
**Signature of	Date			

Reporting Owners 2

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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.