

FIRST BANCSHARES INC /MS/  
Form 4  
March 26, 2015

**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 \*  
COLE M RAY JR

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
FIRST BANCSHARES INC /MS/ [FBMS]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
8 AUBURN LANE  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
02/01/2015

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
PRESIDENT AND CEO

HATTIESBURG, MS 39401

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Price   |  |                                   |
| Common Stock <sup>(1)</sup>     | 02/01/2015                           |  | A                              | 8,814   | A \$ 0  | 57,240   | D                                 |
| Common Stock                    | 03/05/2015                           |  | F                              | 1,966   | D \$ 14.13  | 55,274 <sup>(2)</sup> <sup>(3)</sup>                     | D <sup>(4)</sup>                  |

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 required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

SEC 1474 (9-02)

**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 of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Beneficially (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                          | Relationships |           |                   |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer           | Other |
| COLE M RAY JR<br>8 AUBURN LANE<br>HATTIESBURG, MS 39401 | X             |           | PRESIDENT AND CEO |       |

## Signatures

M. Ray Cole, Jr.                      03/26/2015  
 \_\_Signature of                      Date  
 Reporting Person

## 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) Restricted stock grant, subject to forfeiture, vesting on 2-1-2020.  
 Includes 3,548 shares of restricted stock (remaining after 1,966 shares were surrendered for taxes) that were granted on 3-1-12 and vested on 3-1-15, but remain subject to delivery restrictions pursuant to the Company's participation in the U.S. Treasury's Troubled Asset Relief Program.
- (3) Includes 2,161 shares of restricted stock (remaining after 692 shares were surrendered for taxes) that were granted on 8-1-10 and vested on 8-1-13 but remain subject to delivery restrictions pursuant to the Company's participation in the U.S. Treasury's Troubled Asset Relief Program.
- (4) Includes 2,657 shares of restricted stock (remaining after 1,448 shares were surrendered for taxes) that were granted on 2-1-11 and vested on 2-1-14 but remain subject to delivery restrictions pursuant to the Company's participation I the U.S. Treasury's Troubled Asset Relief Program.

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.