

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/  
Form 4  
January 22, 2008

**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 \*  
munafosamuelj

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
300 HIGH STREET  
(Street)

HAMILTON, OH 45011

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/ [FFBC]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
01/21/2008

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
EVP-Banking

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
\_\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)			
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	01/21/2008		J <sup>(1)</sup>		799	A	\$ 0	9,639.9689	D	
Common Stock								27,373.6512	I	401-K
Common Stock								451.1061	I	Joint w/Spouse
Common Stock	01/21/2008		J <sup>(2)</sup>		1,000	D	\$ 0	13,172.6805	I	Restricted
Common Stock								109.6394	I	Spouse/Son Custodial Account

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

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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. Pri Deriv Secur (Instr	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
1998 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 19.097					01/27/1999	01/27/2008	Common Stock	5,238
1998 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 19.087					01/27/1999	01/27/2008	Common Stock	2,386
1999 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 22.565					01/25/2000	01/25/2009	Common Stock	4,201
1999 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 22.565					01/25/2000	01/25/2009	Common Stock	4,461
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	9,426
	\$ 16.0124					01/22/2002	01/22/2011		6,244

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2001 (ISO) Stock Option					Common Stock	
2001 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 16.0124		01/22/2002	01/22/2011	Common Stock	1,631
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	5,000
2004 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 17.09		01/21/2005	01/21/2014	Common Stock	2,500
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	6,289
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	10,658
2007 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 14.9		04/30/2008	04/30/2017	Common Stock	6,711
2007 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 14.9		04/30/2008	04/30/2017	Common Stock	12,889

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
munafo samuel j 300 HIGH STREET HAMILTON, OH 45011			EVP-Banking	

## Signatures

terri j ziepfel                      01/22/2008

\_\_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 (less shares sold to cover taxes)
- (2) 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.