Hoeflinger Erin Form 4 April 03, 2018

FORM 4

Check this box

if no longer

subject to

Section 16.

Form 4 or

obligations

may continue.

Form 5

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

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

See Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

Hoeflinger Erin

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP

/OH/ [FFBC]

(Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Zip)

(Month/Day/Year) 04/01/2018

255 EAST 5TH STREET, SUITE 2900

(State)

(Street)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Applicable Line)

X_ Director

Officer (give title

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

10% Owner

Other (specify

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

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Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

Issuer

below)

CINCINNATI, OH 45202

(City)

1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Ownership (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned Indirect (I) Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported

(A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount Price (D)

Common 04/01/2018 A 6,023 Α (1) 6,023 D Stock

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

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	5. 6. Date Exercisable and		7. Title and		8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	TransactionNumber		Expiration D	ate	Amount	of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day	Year)	Underlyi	ing	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative			Securities		(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities Acquired			(Instr. 3 and 4)			Own
	Security									Follo	
					(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
								٨	mount		
						Date Expiration		or Title Number			
						Exercisable	Date	of			
				Code V	(A) (D)				hares		

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Hoeflinger Erin 255 EAST 5TH STREET, SUITE 2900 X CINCINNATI, OH 45202

Signatures

/s/ Billie L. 04/03/2018 Meents, POA

**Signature of Reporting 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).

Received pursuant to the merger agreement between First Financial Bancorp. ("First Financial") and MainSource Financial Group, Inc. ("MainSource"), dated July 25, 2017 (the "Merger Agreement"), pursuant to which MainSource was merged with and into First Financial on April 1, 2018 (the "Effective Time"). Pursuant to the Merger Agreement, as of the Effective Time, (i) each issued and outstanding share of MainSource's common stock converted into the right to receive 1.3875 shares of First Financial common stock and cash in lieu

(1) of fractional shares (the "Merger Consideration"), and (ii) each outstanding restricted share and each outstanding performance share unit fully vested and was cancelled and converted automatically into the right to receive the Merger Consideration in respect of each share of MainSource's common stock underlying such award, less applicable tax withholdings. On the trading day immediately preceding Effective Date, the closing price of MainSource's common stock was \$40.65 per share and the closing price of First Financial's common stock was \$29.35 per share.

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.

Reporting Owners 2