

harvey david s  
 Form 3  
 December 20, 2005

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 * |         | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement | 3. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol   |  |
| Â harvey david s                          |         | (Month/Day/Year)                     | FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/ [FFBC]  |  |
| (Last)                                    | (First) | (Middle)                             | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer   | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) |
|   |         | 12/16/2005                           |  |  |
| 300 HIGH STREET                           |         |                                      | (Check all applicable)   |  |
| (Street)                                  |         |                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other<br>(give title below)    (specify below)<br>EVP & CCO |  |
| HAMILTON,Â OHÂ 45011                      |         |                                      | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)   |  |
| (City)                                    | (State) | (Zip)                                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person<br><input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person  |  |

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Common Stock                    | 16,871  | D  | Â   |
| Common Stock                    | 1,420.74 <sup>(1)</sup>                               | I  | 401-K   |
| Preferred Stock                 | 12,007  | I  | Restricted  |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. SEC 1473 (7-02)

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**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security | 4. Conversion or Exercise | 5. Ownership Form of | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership |
|--|--|--|---------------------------|----------------------|--|
|--|--|--|---------------------------|----------------------|--|

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|                         | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | (Instr. 4)<br>Title | Amount or Number of Shares | Price of Derivative Security | Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | (Instr. 5) |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--|------------|
| 1999 (ISO) Stock Option | 01/25/2000       | 01/25/2009      | Common Stock        | 4,043                      | \$ 22.565                    | D  | Â          |
| 2000 (ISO) Stock Option | 01/24/2001       | 01/24/2010      | Common Stock        | 5,694                      | \$ 17.56                     | D  | Â          |
| 2000 (NQ) Stock Option  | 01/24/2001       | 01/24/2010      | Common Stock        | 8,481                      | \$ 17.56                     | D  | Â          |
| 2001 (ISO) Stock Option | 01/22/2002       | 01/22/2011      | Common Stock        | 6,244                      | \$ 16.0124                   | D  | Â          |
| 2001 (NQ) Stock Option  | 01/22/2002       | 01/22/2011      | Common Stock        | 1,631                      | \$ 16.0124                   | D  | Â          |
| 2002 (ISO) Stock Option | 01/12/2003       | 01/17/2012      | Common Stock        | 5,000                      | \$ 17.2                      | D  | Â          |
| 2003 (ISO) Stock Option | 01/22/2004       | 01/22/2013      | Common Stock        | 5,000                      | \$ 16.58                     | D  | Â          |
| 2004 (ISO) Stock Option | 01/21/2005       | 01/21/2014      | Common Stock        | 2,500                      | \$ 17.09                     | D  | Â          |
| 2005 (ISO) Stock Option | 04/18/2006       | 04/18/2015      | Common Stock        | 5,711                      | \$ 17.51                     | D  | Â          |
| 2005 (NQ) Sock Option   | 04/18/2006       | 04/18/2015      | Common Stock        | 4,889                      | \$ 17.51                     | D  | Â          |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                          | Relationships |           |             |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer     | Other |
| harvey david s<br>300 HIGH STREET<br>HAMILTON, OH 45011 | Â             | Â         | Â EVP & CCO | Â     |

## Signatures

terri j ziepfel                      12/20/2005  
 \_\_Signature of                      Date  
 Reporting Person

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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) As of 09/30/05

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, See Instruction 6 for procedure.

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