

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/
Form 4
February 15, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31, 2015
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *
LEFFERSON C DOUGLAS

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

255 EAST FIFTH STREET, SUITE 2900

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
02/14/2012

____ Director
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
EVP & COO

CINCINNATI, OH 45202

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
				(A) or (D)					
			Code	V	Amount or Price				
Common Stock	02/14/2012		D		1,525 (2)	D	\$ 17.18 28,438	I	Restricted Award
Common Stock	02/14/2012		A		1,036 (3)	A	\$ 17.18 32,012	D	
Common Stock	02/14/2012		S		12,943	D	\$ 17.1412 19,069	D	
Common Stock							14,696 (1)	I	401-k

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 or Value of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
2003 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 16.58					01/22/2004	01/22/2013	Common Stock	6,031
2003 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 16.58					01/22/2004	01/22/2013	Common Stock	3,969
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) Stock Option	\$ 17.51					04/18/2006	04/18/2015	Common Stock	19,289
2006 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 16.02					04/24/2007	04/24/2016	Common Stock	6,242
2006 (NQ)	\$ 16.02					04/24/2007	04/24/2016	Common Stock	19,258

Stock Option						
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	21,489	
2008 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 11.64	02/14/2009	02/14/2018	Common Stock	8,591	
2008 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 11.64	02/14/2009	04/14/2018	Common Stock	63,409	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
LEFFERSON C DOUGLAS 255 EAST FIFTH STREET SUITE 2900 CINCINNATI, OH 45202			EVP & COO	

Signatures

/s/Terri J
Ziepfel, POA

02/15/2012

**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) Update per Statement
- (2) Vesting of Restricted Stock Award
- (3) Vesting of Restricted Stock Award less shares used for taxes

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.