

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/  
Form 4  
May 25, 2011

**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 \*  
PURKRABEK KNUST SUSAN L

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)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
05/24/2011

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

201 E. FOURTH STREET, SUITE 2000

(Street)

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

CINCINNATI, OH 45202

(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)      |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V Amount (A) or (D) Price   |   |  |  |
| Common Stock                    | 05/24/2011                           |  | A                              | 1,239 A \$ 0  | 1,552.1133  | I  | Restricted Stock Awards <sup>(1)</sup> |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 5,213.9526  | D <sup>(1)</sup>   |  |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 1,654.7105  | I <sup>(1)</sup>   | K.p. Properties                        |
| Common Stock (David &           |                                      |  |                                |   | 2,000   | D  |  |

|  |       |  |   |
|--|-------|--|---|
| Susan Knust<br>Living<br>Trust)                        |       |  |   |
| Common<br>Stock<br>(David<br>Knust FFB<br>Trust)       | 3,000 |  | D |
| Common<br>Stock<br>(Susan<br>Knust<br>Agency<br>Trust) | 525   |  | D |
| Common<br>Stock<br>(Susan<br>Knust FFB<br>Trust)       | 3,000 |  | D |
| FFBC<br>(Directors<br>Fee Stock<br>Plan)               | 4,629 |  | D |

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

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(9-02)

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

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number<br>of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3,<br>4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of<br>Underlying Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Pri<br>Deriv<br>Secur<br>(Instr.                      |
|---|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|
|   | \$ 17.08   |   |   | Code V                               | (A) (D)  | Date<br>Exercisable<br>04/26/2006                              | Expiration<br>Date<br>04/26/2016                                    | Title<br>Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares<br>8,663 |

2005  
(NQ)  
Sock  
Option

Common  
Stock

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Relationships |           |         |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| PURKRABEK KNUST SUSAN L<br>201 E. FOURTH STREET<br>SUITE 2000<br>CINCINNATI, OH 45202 | X             |           |         |       |

## Signatures

/s/Terri J  
Ziepfel, POA

05/25/2011

\*\*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) Includes shares in dividend reinvestment account

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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