olszewski richard e Form 4 November 15, 2012

OMB APPROVAL UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB 3235-0287 Washington, D.C. 20549 Number: Check this box January 31, Expires: if no longer 2005 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF subject to Estimated average **SECURITIES** Section 16. burden hours per Form 4 or response... 0.5 Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction 1(b). (Print or Type Responses) 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading olszewski richard e Issuer Symbol FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP (Check all applicable) /OH/ [FFBC] (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Last) (First) _X__ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) 255 EAST FIFTH STREET, SUITE 11/14/2012 2900 (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting CINCINNATI, OH 45202 (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| . • | | Tau | ie i - Noii- | Derivative | secu | Titles Acqui | reu, Disposeu oi | , or belieffcia | ny Owneu |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|--|--|---|
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securi coor Dispo (Instr. 3, | sed of 4 and (A) or | ` ' | 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) |
| Common Stock | 11/14/2012 | | P | 300 | A | \$ 14.4733 | 6,865 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 8,291 | I | Held in Joint Brokerage Account |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 1,400 | I | IRA |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 0 | I | Jean Olszewski |

| | | | By Richard Olszewski Poa | | | |
|---|-------|---|--------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Common Stock | 4,922 | I | Joint w/Spouse | | | |
| Common Stock | 1,270 | I | Restricted | | | |
| FFBC (Directors Fee Stock Plan) | 7,797 | D | | | | |
| Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. | | | | | | |

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

number.

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(9-02)

8. Pri Deriv Secur (Instr

| 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. Transac Code (Instr. 8 | etio | 5. inNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | s i | | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|------|---|---------------------|--------------------|---|--|--|
| | | | | Code | V | (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | |
| 2005 (NQ) Sock | \$ 18.63 | | | | | | 06/28/2006 | 06/28/2015 | Common Stock | 8,663 | |

Reporting Owners

Option

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer Other | | | | | |
| olszewski richard e 255 EAST FIFTH STREET SUITE 2900 | X | | | | | | | |

Reporting Owners 2

CINCINNATI, OH 45202

Signatures

/s/Terri J Ziepfel, POA

**Signature of Date
Reporting Person

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).

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.

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