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gehlmann gr Form 4	egory a										
March 01, 20	013										
FORM	14		SECUT	TTIES A	ND EV	CILA	NCE	COMMERION	r	PPROVAL	
	UNITED	SIAIES		shington,			INGE (COMMISSION	OMB Number:	3235-0287	
Check th if no long	70 r					TOT			Expires:	January 31, 2005	
subject to STATEMENT OF Section 16. Form 4 or				SECUR	RITIES				Estimated burden hou response	average Jrs per	
Form 5 obligatio may cont <i>See</i> Instru 1(b).	ns Section 17	(a) of the l	Public U		ding Cor	npan	y Act of	e Act of 1934, f 1935 or Sectio 40	n		
(Print or Type I	Responses)										
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <u>*</u> gehlmann gregory a			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/ [FFBC]					5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
	(Check all applicable)										
				of Earliest Transaction /Day/Year)				Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify below) below)			
255 EAST H 2900	FIFTH STREET	, SUITE	02/27/2	013				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	orate General (Counsel	
				nendment, Date Original onth/Day/Year)				6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)			
CINCINNA	TI, OH 45202							_X_ Form filed by 0 Form filed by M Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Tabl	le I - Non-E	Derivative	Secu	rities Acc	uired, Disposed o	f, or Beneficia	lly Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Dat (Month/Day/Year)		n Date, if	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securi or(A) or Di (Instr. 3,	spose	d of (D)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
Common				Code V	Amount	(D)	Price \$	(Instr. 3 and 4)			
Stock	02/27/2013			D <u>(1)</u>	3,330	D	φ 15.26	22,824	Ι	Restricted	
Common Stock	02/27/2013			A <u>(2)</u>	2,254	А	\$ 15.26	27,968	D		
Common Stock								5,668.4615 (3)	Ι	401k	

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

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information contained in this form are not
required to respond unless the formSEC 1474
(9-02)

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displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	5. onNumber 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 1 5 ()
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
2005 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 18.63					06/21/2006	06/21/2016	Common Stock	5,367	
2005 (NQ) Sock Option	\$ 18.63					06/21/2006	06/21/2016	Common Stock	6,033	
2006 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 16.02					04/24/2007	04/24/2016	Common Stock	6,242	
2006 (NQ) Stock Option	\$ 16.02					04/24/2007	04/24/2016	Common Stock	10,258	
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	12,889	
2008 (ISO) Stock Option	\$ 11.64					02/14/2009	02/14/2018	Common Stock	8,591	

8. Pri Deriv Secur (Instr 2008 (NQ) Stock \$ 11.64 Option

02/14/2009 02/14/2018 Common 43,909 Stock

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Addre	SS	Relationships						
I O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other				
gehlmann gregory a 255 EAST FIFTH STREET SUITE 2900 CINCINNATI, OH 45202			EVP/Corporate General Counsel					
Signatures								
/s/Terri J Ziepfel, POA	03/01/2013							

<u>**</u>Signature of Reporting Person

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).

Date

- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Vesting of Restricted Stock Award
- (2) Vesting of Restricted Stock Award less shares withheld for taxes
- (3) Update per Statement

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.