

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/  
Form 8-K  
February 02, 2009

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): January 27, 2009

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

|                                                                                    |                                        |                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Ohio<br>(State or other jurisdiction<br>of incorporation)                          | 0-12379<br>(Commission File<br>Number) | 31-1042001<br>(IRS Employer<br>Identification No.) |
| 4000 Smith Road<br>Cincinnati, Ohio<br>(Address of principal executive<br>offices) |                                        | 45209<br>(Zip Code)                                |

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (513) 979-5837

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))



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First Financial Bancorp.

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

(d) On January 27, 2009, the board of directors of First Financial Bancorp. elected Mark A. Collar as a director of the corporation. Mr. Collar's term shall expire at the next annual meeting of shareholders of the corporation. It has not been determined on what committees of the board he will serve.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP.

By: /s/ J. Franklin Hall  
J. Franklin Hall  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

Date: February 2, 2009