

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/

Form 4

April 23, 2003

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person
Porter, Barry S.
385 Oliver Road
Cincinnati, OH 45215
2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
First Financial Bancorp (FFBC)
3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)
282-32-9070
4. Statement for Month/Day/Year
04/22/2003
5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)
6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
(X) Director () 10% Owner
() Officer (give title below) () Other (specify below)
7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
(X) Form filed by One Reporting Person
() Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

TABLE I -- Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security	2. Transaction Date	2A. Execution Date	3. Transaction Code	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)	5. Amount or Number of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Report
	(Month/Day/Year)	(Month/Day/Year)	Code V	Amount A/D Price	Transac
Common Stock					16109
Common Stock					0
FFBC (Directors Fee Stock Plan)					2440

TABLE II -- Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date	3A. Execution Date	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Month/Day/Year)	Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exer- Expira-	Title Shares
1997 (NQ) Stock Option	\$13.148					04/22/2007	Common Stock

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2000 (NQ)	\$16.9048					04/25/2010	Common	
Stock							Stock	
Option								
2003 (NQ)	\$15.58	04/22/2	A	8663	04/22/2004	04/22/2013	Common	8663
Stock		003					Stock	
Option								

Explanation of Responses:

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON
/s/ Terri J. Ziepfel

DATE
04/23/2003