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CONNORS ROBERT R

[_] Director

Form 5 January 08, 2003

U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, DC 20549

FORM 5

	ANNUAL STATE	MENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFI	CIAL OWNERSHIP						
	Section 17(a) of the	on 16(a) of the Securitie Public Utility Holding C) of the Investment Compa	ompany Act of 1935 or						
[_]	Check box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligation may continue. See Instruction 1(b).								
[_]	Form 3 Holdings Report	ed							
[_]	Form 4 Transactions Re	ported							
1.	Name and Address of Re	porting Person*							
Сс	onnors	Robert	R.						
	(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	(Middle)					
66	510 Hazelwood Avenue								
		(Street)							
Ir	ndianapolis	IN	46260						
	(City)	(State)	(Zip)						
2.	Issuer Name and Ticker	or Trading Symbol							
_		(=====							
F :	irst Merchants Corporati	on (FRME)							
3.	IRS Identification Num	ber of Reporting Person,	if an Entity (Voluntary)						
32	23-42-4518								
4.	Statement for Month/Ye	ar							
Αι	ugust 2003								
5.	If Amendment, Date of	Original (Month/Year)							
6.	Relationship of Report (Check all applicable)	ing Person to Issuer							

[_] 10% Owner

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	[x]	Officer	(give tit	le below)	[.	_] Other (speci	fy below)		
7.		ividual or eck applic		oup Filing	ı					
	[x]			Reporting e than one	g Person e Reporting 1	Person				
====		 Table I	======================================	======= erivative	Securities A			ed of,	==	
====			======	or Benef	ficially Own	ed =======	=====	:========	==	
								4. Securities Acquipisposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and		
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)			Date	3. Transac Code (Instr.		Amount	(A)			
====								:=======	======	
*		the form i	s filed b	y more tha	an one Repo	rting Pers	on,	see Instruction	on	
		Report			for each cla	ass of sec	uriti	es beneficial	ly	
				(Print or	Type Respons	ses)		(Ove	r)	
FORM	45 (c	continued)								
Tabl	le II				quired, Dispos, options, o			ficially Owned rities)		
====			======	======			====		==	
			2. Conversion			umber of erivative	6.		of Unde	
			Exer- cise	3.	_	ecurities cquired (A)	Dat Exe	e rcisable and	Securit (Instr.	ies 3 and 4)

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1. Title of	of Deriv-	action Date	Trans- action	of (D)	. 3	(Month/D	ay/Year)		Amount or
Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	ative Secur- ity	(Month/ Day/ Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) (D)		Date Exer- cisable	Expira- tion Date	Title	Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	26.60	08/26/02	2 A	А		08/26/04	08/26/12	Common	3,150*

Price Trans- 4. or Disposed Expiration Date -----

Explanation of Responses: *Reporting person was awarded 3,000 options on August 26, 2002.

On August 13, 2002, the Board of Directors of First Merchants Corporation declared a stock dividend payable to all holders of record of common stock on August 30, 2002 of one share of common stock for each 20 shares of common stock outstanding to be distributed on September 13, 2002. Fractional shares were distributed in cash. Pursuant to anti-dilution provisions of First Merchants Corporation's various stock option plans options previously reported were also adjusted to reflect the stock dividend.

/s/ Larry R. Helms	January 8, 2003
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date
(Confirming Statement on File)	

^{**} 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 provided is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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