

hoying john c  
 Form 3  
 December 20, 2005

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,  
 Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section  
 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *		2. Date of Event Requiring Statement	3. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol	
Â hoying john c		(Month/Day/Year)	FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/ [FFBC]	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
		12/16/2005		
300 HIGH STREET			(Check all applicable)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
(Street)			<input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
			(give title below) (specify below)	
			SVP	
HAMILTON,Â OHÂ 45011				
(City)	(State)	(Zip)		

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	2,388	D	Â
Common Stock	562	I	401-K
Common Stock	2,392.91	I	401-K
Common Stock	500	I	Raymond James Brokerage Account

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

