

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/  
Form 8-K  
September 01, 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): August 28, 2009

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

Ohio  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

0-12379  
(Commission File Number)

31-1042001  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

4000 Smith Road  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
(Address of principal executive  
offices)

45209  
(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 7.01

Regulation FD Disclosure.

The executive officers of First Financial Bancorp intend to use the materials filed herewith, in whole or in part, in one or more meetings with investors and analysts. A copy of the investor presentation is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

First Financial Bancorp does not intend for this Item 7.01 or Exhibit 99.1 to be treated as “filed” for purposes of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or incorporated by reference into its filings under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Item 8.01.

Other Events.

On August 31, 2009, the Company issued a press release regarding the completion of First Financial’s purchase of certain assets and an assumption of certain liabilities from Irwin, including three branches. A copy of the August 31, 2009 press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.2.

First Financial Bancorp does not intend for this Item 8.01 or Exhibit 99.2 to be treated as “filed” for purposes of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or incorporated by reference into its filings under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Item 9.01

Exhibits.

The following exhibit shall not be deemed to be “filed” for purposes of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

(c)

Exhibit:

99.1  
99.2

First Financial Bancorp. Investor Presentation.  
First Financial Bancorp August 31, 2009 Press Release.

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: September 1, 2009

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Exhibit Index

Exhibit No.      Description

99.1              First Financial Bancorp. Investor Presentation.

99.2              First Financial Bancorp August 31, 2009 Press Release.

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