

FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP /OH/  
Form 8-K  
January 03, 2017

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UNITED STATES  
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): December 30, 2016

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

Ohio 31-1042001  
(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. employer  
incorporation or organization) identification number)

Commission file number: 001-34762

255 East Fifth Street, Suite 700, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202  
(Address of principal executive offices and zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (877) 322-9530

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 8.01. Other Events.

First Financial Bancorp. today announced that, effective as of the close of business on December 30, 2016, its subsidiary, First Financial Bank, National Association, converted from a national association to an Ohio state chartered bank and changed its name to First Financial Bank. First Financial Bank is now a member bank of the Federal Reserve System through the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. The conversion is not expected to affect the Bank's clients in any way, and deposit clients will continue to receive the same protection on deposits through the FDIC.

The press release issued by the Company in connection with the charter conversion is included as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated into this Item 8.01 by reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

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

(d) Exhibits:

99.1 First Financial Bancorp. Press Release dated January 3, 2017.

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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/ John M. Gavigan  
John M. Gavigan  
Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Date: January 3, 2017

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Form 8-K                      First Financial Bancorp.

Exhibit Index

Exhibit No.      Description

99.1              First Financial Bancorp. Press Release dated January 3, 2017.