## 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: December 9, 2005 FIRST FINANCIAL BANCORP. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter) 0-12379 31-1042001 (Commission File Number) (IRS Employer **Identification No.)** 

300 High Street

Ohio

(State or other jurisdiction

of incorporation)

Hamilton, Ohio (Address of principal executive offices)

45011 (Zip Code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (513) 867-5447

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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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Form 8-K	First Financial Bancorp
Item 8.01 Other Events.	
On December 9, 2005, First Financial Bancorp. issued a press release announcing the final results of its tender offer. A is attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.	A copy of the press release
Item 9.01 Exhibits.	
(c) Exhibit:	
99.1 First Financial Bancorp. Press Release dated December 9, 2005.	

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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/ J. Franklin Hall

J. Franklin Hall Senior Vice President and

Chief Financial Officer

Date: December 9, 2005

Form 8-K First Financial Bancorp.

### **Exhibit Index**

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	First Financial Bancorp. Press Release dated December 9, 2005