

FIRST BANCORP /NC/  
Form 4  
March 24, 2010

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN 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 \*  
CREDLE ERIC P

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
FIRST BANCORP /NC/ [FBNC]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
03/22/2010

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Amount		

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 16.53	03/22/2010	A			6,270		12/31/2011 <sup>(1)</sup>	06/17/2018	Common Stock	6,270
Performance Units	<sup>(2)</sup>	03/22/2010	A			1,942		<sup>(2)</sup>	12/31/2011	Common Stock	1,942

### Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
CREDLE ERIC P			CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	

### Signatures

/s/ Timothy S. Maples,  
 Attorney-in-fact  
 Signature of Reporting Person

03/24/2010  
 Date

### Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
  - \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) On June 18, 2008 the reporting person was granted an option to purchase 18,809 shares of common stock. The option vests in three equal installments based on First Bancorp's satisfaction of certain performance criteria for each of the fiscal years ending December 31, 2008, 2009, and 2010. The performance criteria for 2009 were met, resulting in the vesting of the option as to 6,270 shares. The option will not become exercisable unless the reporting person remains employed with First Bancorp and otherwise eligible to exercise options on December 31, 2011.
- (2) Each performance unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of First Bancorp common stock. The performance rights vest if the recipient remains employed with the Company and otherwise eligible to receive the shares on December 31, 2011.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.