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FIRST BANCORP /PR/ Form 3 March 14, 2006 FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 OMB Number 3235-0104

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)

Date

Exercisable

Expiration

Title

Date

1. Name and Address of Report Person <u>*</u> Romero Pedro	Statement	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 01/24/2006		3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FIRST BANCORP /PR/ [fbp]			
(Last) (First) (1	Middle) 01/24/20			4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
P O BOX 9146							
(Street)			(Check	all applicab	le)	6. Individua	l or Joint/Group
SAN JUAN, PR 0090	8-0146		Director X Officer (give title below Senior VI	Ot	elow)	_X_ Form file Person	x Applicable Line) ed by One Reporting ed by More than One rson
(City) (State)	(Zip)	Table I - N	Non-Derivat	ive Secur	ities Bo	eneficially	Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 4)		2. Amount of Beneficially (Instr. 4)		3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)		ature of Indire ership r. 5)	ct Beneficial
Reminder: Report on a separate owned directly or indirectly.	line for each class of s	ecurities benefici	ially SI	EC 1473 (7-	02)		
Persons informati required	who respond to the ion contained in thi to respond unless valid OMB control	s form are not the form displ					
Table II - Deriva	ntive Securities Benefi	cially Owned (e.	.g., puts, calls,	warrants, o	options,	convertible se	ecurities)
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable a Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	Securi	e and Amount of ties Underlying tive Security 4)	g Conv or Ex Price	version kercise of vative	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security:	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)

Direct (D)

or Indirect

(Instr. 5)

(I)

Security

Amount or

Number of

Shares

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Option to buy (1) 01/24/2006 01/24/2016 S	Common Stock	10,000	\$ 12.68	D	Â
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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Romero Pedro P O BOX 9146 SAN JUAN, PR 00908-0146	Â	Â	Senior VP & Comptroller	Â		
Signatures						

/s/Pedro Romero 03/14/2006 <u>**</u>Signature of Date Reporting Person

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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) Under employee stock option plan

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.