

FIRST AMERICAN CORP
Form 8-K
January 26, 2005

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 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) January 25, 2005

THE FIRST AMERICAN CORPORATION

(Exact Name of the Registrant as Specified in Charter)

California
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

001-13585
(Commission File Number)

95-1068610
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

1 First American Way, Santa Ana, California
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

92707-5913
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (714) 800-3000

Not Applicable.

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

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:

- .. 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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Item 8.01 Other Events.

On January 25, 2005, a jury in the case of Chicago Title Insurance Corporation v. James A. Magnuson, et al. awarded damages in the amount of \$43.2 million against First American Title Insurance Company, a subsidiary of the Registrant. This matter involved claims of violation of a non-competition agreement and intentional interference with contract. The judgment comprised a compensatory award of \$10.8 million and a punitive damage award of \$32.4 million. The Registrant believes it has strong grounds to overturn this judgment and will conduct a vigorous appeal. Pending the outcome of this appeal, the Registrant will take a charge to fourth quarter 2004 earnings. Subject to further review, the Registrant anticipates this charge will be approximately \$10.0 million.

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.

THE FIRST AMERICAN CORPORATION

Date: January 25, 2005

By: /s/ Thomas A. Klemens

Name: Thomas A. Klemens
Title: Senior Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer