

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

FORM 8-K

Current report filing

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FILER

FIRST AMERICAN CORP

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Mailing Address
*1 FIRST AMERICAN WAY
SANTA ANA CA 92707*

Business Address
*1 FIRST AMERICAN WAY
SANTA ANA CA 92707
714-800-3000*

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) May 18, 2004

THE FIRST AMERICAN CORPORATION
(Exact Name of the Registrant as Specified in Charter)

California 0-3658 95-1068610

(State or Other Jurisdiction (Commission (IRS Employer
of Incorporation) File Number) Identification No.)

1 First American Way, Santa Ana, California 92707-5913

(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

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

Not Applicable.

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

Item 5. Other Events and Required FD Disclosure.

On May 18, 2004, The First American Corporation (the "Company") issued a press release announcing that its board of directors has approved a stock repurchase program authorizing the Company to repurchase up to \$100 million of the Company's issued and outstanding Common shares. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto and is incorporated herein by this reference.

Item 7. Exhibits.

Exhibit No. Description

99.1 Press Release.

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: May 18, 2004

By: /s/ Thomas A. Klemens

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

Contact:

Thomas A. Klemens
Sr. Executive Vice President &
Chief Financial Officer
(714) 800-4401

NEWS FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE

THE FIRST AMERICAN CORPORATION
ANNOUNCES STOCK BUY-BACK PROGRAM

--BOARD AUTHORIZES REPURCHASE OF UP TO \$100 MILLION IN FAF STOCK--

SANTA ANA, Calif., May 18, 2004 - The First American Corporation (NYSE: FAF), the nation's largest data provider, today announced that its board of directors has approved the repurchase of up to \$100 million of the company's currently issued and outstanding common shares. Purchase of shares will be made from time to time in open market transactions at prevailing prices. The amount and timing of any share repurchases will depend on, among other factors, the market performance of the shares; the availability of, and alternative uses of, the company's funds; and Securities and Exchange Commission regulations.

"The current market price of our stock does not begin to reflect our success in transforming First American into a diversified provider of data and data-related products and services," stated Parker S. Kennedy, chairman and chief executive officer of The First American Corporation. "Given our current stock price and growth prospects, we believe a repurchase of our shares represents an excellent investment opportunity."

The First American Corporation is a Fortune 500 company that traces its history to 1889. As the nation's largest data provider, the company supplies businesses and consumers with information resources in connection with the major economic events of people's lives, such as getting a job; renting an apartment; buying a car, house, boat or airplane; securing a mortgage; opening or buying a business; and planning for retirement. The First American Family of Companies, many of which command leading market share positions in their respective industries, operate within six primary business segments including: Title Insurance and Services, Specialty Insurance, Mortgage Information, Property Information, Credit Information and Screening Information. With revenues of \$6.21 billion in 2003, First American has 29,000 employees in approximately 1,800 offices throughout the United States and abroad. More information about the company and an archive of its press releases can be found at www.firstam.com.

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