

FIRST COMMONWEALTH FINANCIAL CORP /PA/

Form S-3

April 01, 2010

Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 1, 2010

Registration No. 333-

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM S-3**

**REGISTRATION STATEMENT**

**UNDER**

**THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**

**First Commonwealth Financial Corporation**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Pennsylvania

25-1428528

(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**Old Courthouse Square**

**22 North Sixth Street**

**Indiana, PA 15701**

**(724) 349-7220**

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

**Robert E. Rout**

**Executive Vice President and**

**Chief Financial Officer**

**First Commonwealth**

**Financial Corporation**

**22 North Sixth Street**

**Indiana, PA 15701**

**(724) 349-7220**

(Name, address, including zip code and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

*Copies to:*

**Ronald H. Janis, Esq.**

**Day Pitney LLP**

**7 Times Square**

**New York, NY 10036**

**(212) 297-5800**

**Matthew C. Tomb, Esq.**

**Senior Vice President, Legal Counsel**

**First Commonwealth**

**Financial Corporation**

**22 North Sixth Street**

**Indiana, PA 15701**

**(724) 349-7220**

**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:** From time to time after this registration statement becomes effective.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box. "

If any of the securities being registered on this form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box. x

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. "

**Table of Contents**

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. "

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box. "

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box. "

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer   
 Non-accelerated filer  Smaller reporting company

**CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

Title of each class of securities to be registered	Amount to be registered (1)	Proposed maximum offering price per share (1)	Proposed aggregate offering price (2)	Amount of registration fee (3)
Common Stock (4)				
Preferred Stock (5)				
Depository Shares (5)				
Debt Securities (6)				
Warrants (7)				
<b>Total</b>	\$300,000,000		\$300,000,000	\$21,390

- (1) Pursuant to General Instruction II(D) of Form S-3, such indeterminate number of shares or principal amount of common stock, preferred stock, depository shares, debt securities and warrants not to exceed \$300,000,000 maximum aggregate offering price exclusive of accrued interest and dividends, if any. The proposed maximum offering price per unit will be determined from time to time in connection with the issuance of the securities registered hereunder.
- (2) Estimated solely for purposes of computing the registration fee and exclusive of accrued interest and dividends, if any.
- (3) Calculated in accordance with Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act.
- (4) Such indeterminate number of shares of common stock as may, from time to time, be issued (i) at indeterminate prices or (ii) upon conversion or exchange of securities registered hereunder, to the extent any such securities are, by their terms, convertible or exchangeable for common stock.
- (5) Such indeterminate number of shares of preferred stock as may, from time to time, be issued (i) at indeterminate prices or (ii) upon conversion or exchange of securities registered hereunder, to the extent any such securities are, by their terms, convertible or exchangeable for preferred stock. In the event registrant elects to offer to the public fractional interests in its shares of preferred stock registered hereunder, depository shares, evidenced by depository receipts issued pursuant to a deposit agreement, will be distributed to those persons purchasing fractional interests and the shares of preferred stock will be issued to the depository under any such agreement.
- (6) Such indeterminate amount of debt securities as may, from time to time, be issued (i) at indeterminate prices or (ii) upon conversion or exchange of securities registered hereunder, to the extent any such securities are, by their terms, convertible or exchangeable for debt securities.
- (7) Warrants may be sold separately or together with debt securities, preferred stock, common stock, or depository shares. Includes an indeterminate number of debt securities, shares of preferred stock, shares of common stock or depository shares to be issuable upon the exercise of warrants for such securities.

**The registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in**

accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

**Table of Contents**

**The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.**

**Subject to Completion, dated April 1, 2010**

**PROSPECTUS**

**FIRST COMMONWEALTH FINANCIAL CORPORATION**

**\$300,000,000**

**Common Stock**

**Preferred Stock**

**Depositary Shares**

**Debt Securities**

**Warrants**

First Commonwealth Financial Corporation from time to time may offer and sell its securities in one or more classes or series. We may offer and sell these securities in amounts, at prices and on terms that we may determine at the time of the offering.

We will provide the specific terms of the securities in supplements to this prospectus. A prospectus supplement may modify or supersede information contained in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest in the securities described in the applicable prospectus supplement. This prospectus may not be used to consummate sales of securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement and a pricing supplement, if any, describing the method and terms of the applicable offering.

We may sell the securities to or through underwriters, and also to other purchasers or through agents. The names of the underwriters will be stated in the prospectus supplements and other offering material. We may also sell securities directly to investors.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol FCF.

*Investing in these securities involves risks. See **Risk Factors** beginning on page 3 of this prospectus.*

You should read this prospectus and the applicable supplement, together with the documents incorporated by reference, carefully before you invest in our securities.

*These securities are not deposits or obligations of a bank or savings association and are not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency.*

*This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and we are not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.*

*Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission or regulatory authority has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.*

The date of this prospectus is April 1, 2010

**Table of Contents**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	ii
<u>CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	ii
<u>INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE</u>	iii
<u>SUMMARY</u>	1
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	3
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	3
<u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES</u>	3
<u>DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK</u>	4
<u>DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED STOCK</u>	4
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES</u>	6
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES</u>	9
<u>DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS</u>	14
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	18
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	20
<u>EXPERTS</u>	20
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	21

## **Table of Contents**

### **ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

As used in this prospectus, the terms we, our and us refer to First Commonwealth Financial Corporation and our consolidated subsidiaries.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, using a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may sell any combination of common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares, debt securities or warrants in one or more offerings. The aggregate initial offering price of all securities we sell under this prospectus will not exceed \$300,000,000.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. We may also add, update or change in a prospectus supplement any of the information contained in this prospectus or in documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus. To the extent that any statement that is made in a prospectus supplement is inconsistent with statements made in this prospectus, the statements made in this prospectus will be deemed modified or superseded by those made in a prospectus supplement.

You should carefully read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, together with additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information** before you invest in our securities.

### **CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

Certain statements contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement that are not historical facts may constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and are intended to be covered by the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements include, among others, statements regarding our strategy, evaluations of our asset quality, future interest rate trends and liquidity, prospects for growth in assets and prospects for future operating results. Forward-looking statements can generally be identified by the use of words such as believe, expect, anticipate, intend, plan, estimate or words of similar meaning, or future or conditional verbs such as will, would, should, could or may. Forward-looking statements are based on assumptions of management and are only expectations of future results. You should not place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements. Our actual results could differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements as a result of, among others, factors referenced under **Risk Factors** and elsewhere in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement, those risks and uncertainties described from time to time in public reports we file with the SEC, as well as the following risk factors:

our exposure to lending concentration risks;

our allowance for loan losses may be insufficient;

our significant exposure to a downturn in the financial services industry due to our investments in trust preferred securities;

our dependence on the availability of liquidity to operate our businesses;

general business and economic conditions;

adverse changes in interest rates;

our expanding branch network may negatively affect our financial performance;

competition from other financial institutions;



**Table of Contents**

negative publicity; and

our ability to successfully integrate other financial institutions we acquire in the future into our existing operations. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date on which they are made. We do not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect circumstances or events that occur after the date the forward-looking statements are made.

**INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE**

The Securities and Exchange Commission allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus. The incorporated documents contain significant information about us, our business and our finances. Any statement contained in a document which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus is automatically updated and superseded if information contained in this prospectus, or information that we later file with the Securities and Exchange Commission, modifies or replaces this information.

We are incorporating by reference the following documents that we have previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009;

our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on January 28, 2010 and February 25, 2010; and

the description of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation common stock set forth in the registration statement on Form 8-A filed on June 5, 1992.

We are also incorporating by reference into this prospectus all of our future filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, until this offering has been completed, except for information furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K and any related exhibits which are not deemed filed and are not incorporated by reference herein.

We will provide without charge to each person to whom a prospectus is delivered, on written or oral request of that person, a copy of any or all of the documents we are incorporating by reference into this prospectus, other than exhibits to those documents unless those exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into those documents. A written request should be addressed to First Commonwealth Financial Corporation, 22 North Sixth Street, Indiana, Pennsylvania 15701, Attention: Corporate Secretary, Telephone: (724) 349-7220.

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus or a prospectus supplement, including the information incorporated by reference. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. If you receive any other information, you should not rely on it. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date appearing on the cover page of those documents.

## **Table of Contents**

### **SUMMARY**

*This summary highlights selected information about our company and a general description of the securities we may offer. This summary is not complete and does not contain all of the information that may be important to you. For a more complete understanding of us and the terms of the securities we will offer, you should read carefully this entire prospectus, including the Risk Factors section, the applicable prospectus supplement for the securities and the other documents we refer to and incorporate by reference. In particular, we incorporate important business and financial information into this prospectus by reference.*

#### **First Commonwealth Financial Corporation**

First Commonwealth Financial Corporation is a registered bank holding company headquartered in Indiana, Pennsylvania. We provide a diversified array of consumer and commercial banking services through our bank subsidiary, First Commonwealth Bank. We also provide trust and wealth management services through First Commonwealth Financial Advisors, Inc. and insurance products through First Commonwealth Insurance Agency, Inc.

First Commonwealth Bank is a Pennsylvania bank and trust company and is the sixth largest commercial bank headquartered in Pennsylvania. At December 31, 2009, First Commonwealth Bank operated 115 community banking offices throughout Western Pennsylvania and three loan production offices in downtown Pittsburgh, State College and Canonsburg, Pennsylvania. Approximately half of First Commonwealth Bank's offices are located within the greater Pittsburgh metropolitan area in Allegheny, Butler and Washington counties, while its remaining offices are located in smaller cities, such as Altoona, Greensburg, Johnstown, and Washington, Pennsylvania, and in towns and villages throughout predominantly rural counties.

Our principal executive office is located at 22 North Sixth Street, Indiana, Pennsylvania 15701, and our telephone number is (724) 349-7220.

#### **Recent Developments**

For recent developments regarding First Commonwealth, we refer you to our most recent and future filings under the Exchange Act and any prospectus supplements.

You should read the entire prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus, including the risk factors, financial data and related notes, before making an investment decision.

#### **The Securities We May Offer**

We may offer up to \$300,000,000 aggregate amount of securities in one or more offerings. A prospectus supplement will describe the amounts, prices and detailed terms of the securities and may describe risks associated with an investment in the securities in addition to those described in Risk Factors. We will also include in the prospectus supplement, where applicable, information about material United States federal income tax considerations relating to the securities.

We may sell our securities to underwriters who will in turn sell the securities to the public on terms fixed at the time of sale. In addition, the securities may be sold directly or through dealers or agents designated from time to time. If we, directly or through agents, solicit offers to purchase the securities, we reserve the sole right to accept and, together with our agents, to reject, in whole or in part, any of those offers.

A prospectus supplement will contain the names of the underwriters, dealers or agents, if any, together with the terms of offering, the compensation of those underwriters and the net proceeds to us. Any underwriters, dealers or agents participating in the offering may be deemed underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Common Stock**

We may sell our common stock, par value \$1.00 per share. In a prospectus supplement, we will describe the aggregate number of shares offered and the offering price or prices of the shares.

### **Preferred Stock; Depositary Shares**

We may sell shares of our preferred stock, par value \$1.00 per share, in one or more series. In a prospectus supplement, we will describe the specific designation, the aggregate number of shares offered, the dividend rate or manner of calculating the dividend rate, the dividend periods or manner of calculating the dividend periods, the stated value of the shares of the series, the voting rights of the shares of the series, if any, whether and on what terms the shares of the series will be convertible or exchangeable, whether and on what terms we can redeem the shares of the series, whether we will offer depositary shares representing shares of the series and if so, the fraction or multiple of a share of preferred stock represented by each depositary share, whether we will list the preferred stock or depositary shares on a securities exchange and any other specific terms of the series of preferred stock.

### **Debt Securities**

Our debt securities may be senior or subordinated in priority of payment. We will provide a prospectus supplement that describes the ranking, whether senior or subordinated, the specific designation, the aggregate principal amount, the purchase price, the maturity, the redemption terms, the interest rate or manner of calculating the interest rate, the time of payment of interest, if any, the terms for any conversion or exchange, including the terms relating to the adjustment of any conversion or exchange mechanism, the listing, if any, on a securities exchange and any other specific terms of the debt securities.

### **Warrants**

We may sell warrants to purchase our debt securities, shares of common stock, shares of our preferred stock or our depositary shares. In a prospectus supplement, we will inform you of the exercise price and any other specific terms of the warrants, including whether our or your obligations, if any, under any warrants may be satisfied by delivering or purchasing the underlying securities or their cash value.

**Table of Contents**

**RISK FACTORS**

An investment in our securities involves risks. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider the risks described under Risk Factors in the applicable prospectus supplement and in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K (including any updates to those Risk Factors in our subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q), and in all other information appearing in this prospectus or incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement. The material risks and uncertainties that management believes affect First Commonwealth will be described in those documents. In addition to those risk factors, there may be additional risks and uncertainties of which management is not aware or focused on or that management deems immaterial. Our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected by any of these risks. The trading price of our securities could decline due to any of these risks, and you may lose all or part of your investment. This prospectus is qualified in its entirety by these risk factors.

**USE OF PROCEEDS**

We currently intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of any securities that we make under this prospectus for general corporate purposes, which may include:

increasing the capitalization of the bank to support continued growth and regulatory capital needs;

reducing or refinancing existing debt;

financing of potential investments and acquisitions;

capital expenditures;

working capital;

stock repurchases; and

other purposes as described in any prospectus supplement.

Pending such uses, we may temporarily invest the net proceeds. The precise amounts and timing of the application of proceeds will depend upon our funding requirements and the availability of other funds. Except as indicated in a prospectus supplement, allocations of the proceeds to specific purposes will not have been made at the date of that prospectus supplement.

**RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**

	Year ending December 31,				
	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges:					
Excluding interest on deposits		2.28X	2.38X	2.06X	2.18X
Including interest on deposits		1.35X	1.31X	1.37X	1.51X

For the purpose of computing the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, earnings represent income before taxes, minority interests and equity in undistributed earnings of unconsolidated subsidiaries, plus fixed charges. Fixed charges include all interest expense (excluding interest on deposits), one-third of rental expense (which we believe is representative of an appropriate interest factor), junior subordinated debentures expense and amortization of debt issuance costs. These ratios are presented both including and excluding interest on deposits. For additional

information regarding the calculation of the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, please see Exhibit 12 to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. Earnings were inadequate to cover fixed charges in 2009 due to the pre-tax net loss of \$45.9 million.

**Table of Contents**

**DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK**

*General.* The following description summarizes the material provisions of our common stock. This description is not complete, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the provisions of our Articles of Incorporation, or the articles, and our Amended and Restated Bylaws, or the bylaws, as well as the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law, or the PBCL. Our articles and bylaws are, and any amendments to them will be, filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. We have authorized 200,000,000 shares of common stock, \$1.00 par value per share, of which 85,151,875 shares were issued and outstanding as of December 31, 2009.

*Market.* Our common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange, or the NYSE, under the symbol **FCF** and is registered with the SEC under Section 12(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. All of the outstanding shares of common stock are, and any common stock issued and sold under this prospectus will be, validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

*Voting Rights.* Each holder of our common stock is entitled to one vote for each share held of record on all matters on which shareholders are entitled to vote; shareholders may not cumulate votes for the election of directors. The presence in person or by proxy of shareholders entitled to cast at least a majority of the votes that all shareholders are entitled to cast is necessary to establish a quorum. Generally, actions to be taken or authorizations to be given by shareholders require the approval of a majority of votes cast at such meetings.

*Dividends.* Subject to the preferences accorded to the holders of outstanding shares of our preferred stock, if any, holders of common stock are entitled to dividends at such times and in such amounts as our board of directors may determine. The payment of dividends is subject to limitations imposed by the PBCL. Our ability to pay cash dividends in the future largely depends on the amount of cash dividends paid to us by our subsidiary bank and our other operating subsidiaries. We are also subject to certain Federal Reserve Board policies that may, in certain circumstances, limit our ability to pay dividends. Capital distributions, including dividends, by the bank are subject to federal and state regulatory restrictions tied to the bank's earnings and capital.

*Liquidation; Dissolution.* In the event we dissolve, liquidate or wind-up, after payment of debts and expenses and payment of the liquidation preference, plus any accrued dividends on any outstanding shares of our preferred stock, the holders of common stock will be entitled to receive all of our remaining assets ratably in proportion to the number of shares held by them.

*Preemptive Rights.* Holders of shares of our common stock have no preemptive, subscription, conversion or redemption rights and are not subject to further calls or assessments, or rights of redemption.

*Transfer Agent.* The Transfer Agent and Registrar for our Common Stock is BNY Mellon Shareowner Services.

**DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED STOCK**

*General.* We have authorized 3,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$1.00 par value per share, of which no shares are issued and outstanding as of the date of this prospectus. Our board of directors has the authority to, without approval of the shareholders, issue shares of preferred stock in one or more series and to fix the number of shares and rights, preferences and limitations of each series. The shares of preferred stock, when issued and sold, will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

The number of shares and all of the relative rights, preferences and limitations of the respective series of preferred stock authorized by the board of directors (or a committee established by the board of directors) will be

**Table of Contents**

described in the applicable prospectus supplement. The terms of particular series of preferred stock may differ, among other things, in:

designation;

number of shares that constitute the series;

dividends (which may be cumulative or noncumulative), the dividend rate, or the method of calculating the dividend rate;

dividend periods, or the method of calculating the dividend periods;

redemption provisions, including whether, on what terms and at what prices the shares will be subject to redemption at our option and whether a sinking fund will be established;

voting rights, if any;

preferences and rights upon liquidation or winding up;

whether and on what terms the shares will be convertible into or exchangeable for shares of any other class, series or security of ours or any other corporation or any other property;

for preferred stock convertible into common stock, the number of shares of common stock to be reserved in connection with, and issued upon conversion of, the preferred stock;

the listing of the preferred stock being offered on any securities exchange or market;

whether depositary shares representing the preferred stock will be offered and, if so, the fraction or multiple of a share that each depositary share will represent; and

the other rights and privileges and any qualifications, limitations or restrictions of those rights or privileges.

*Ranking.* Each series of preferred stock will rank, with respect to the payment of dividends and the distribution of assets upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up:

junior to any series of our capital stock expressly stated to be senior to that series of preferred stock;

senior to our common stock and any class of our capital stock expressly stated to be junior to that series of preferred stock; and

## Edgar Filing: FIRST COMMONWEALTH FINANCIAL CORP /PA/ - Form S-3

on a parity with each other series of preferred stock and all other classes of our capital stock.

*Dividends.* We may pay cumulative cash dividends to the holders of preferred stock, when and as declared by the board of directors or the committee, out of funds legally available for payment. The prospectus supplement will detail the annual rate of dividends or the method or formula for determining or calculating them, and the payment dates and payment periods for dividends. The board of directors or the committee will fix a record date for the payment of dividends. We will pay dividends on the preferred stock to the holders of record on that record date.

We will not declare, pay or set aside for payment any dividends on any preferred stock ranking on a parity as to payment of dividends with the preferred stock unless we declare, pay or set aside for payment dividends on all the outstanding shares of preferred stock for all dividend payment periods ending on or before the dividend payment date for that parity stock.

Unless we have paid the full cumulative dividends on the outstanding shares of preferred stock, we may not take any of the following actions with respect to our common stock or any other preferred stock ranking junior or on parity with the preferred stock as to dividend payments:

declare, pay or set aside for payment any dividends, other than dividends payable in our common stock;



## **Table of Contents**

make other distributions;

redeem, purchase or otherwise acquire our common stock or junior preferred stock for any consideration; or

make any payment to or available for a sinking fund for the redemption of our common stock or junior preferred stock.

*Redemption.* The prospectus supplement will indicate whether, and on what terms, shares of any series of preferred stock will be subject to mandatory redemption or sinking fund provision. The prospectus supplement will also indicate whether, and on what terms, including the date on or after which redemption may occur, we may redeem shares of a series of the preferred stock.

*Liquidation Rights.* In the event we liquidate, dissolve or wind up our affairs, the holders of shares of preferred stock will be entitled to receive, out of our assets available for distribution to shareholders, liquidating distributions in an amount equal to the stated value per share of preferred stock, as described in the applicable prospectus supplement, plus accrued and accumulated but unpaid dividends to the date of final distribution, before any distribution is made to holders of:

any class or series of capital stock ranking junior to the preferred stock as to rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up; or

our common stock.

However, holders of the shares of preferred stock will not be entitled to receive the liquidation price of their shares until we have paid or set aside an amount sufficient to pay in full the liquidation preference of any class or series of our securities ranking senior as to rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up.

If, upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, our assets then distributable are insufficient to pay in full the amounts payable with respect to the preferred stock and any other preferred stock ranking on parity with the preferred stock as to rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up, the holders of the preferred stock and of that other preferred stock will share ratably in any distribution in proportion to the full respective preferential amounts to which they are entitled. After we have paid the full amount of the liquidating distribution to which they are entitled, the holders of the preferred stock will not be entitled to any further participation in any distribution of assets.

*Voting Rights.* Unless otherwise determined by our board of directors and indicated in the prospectus supplement, holders of the preferred stock will not have any voting rights except as from time to time required by law.

## **DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES**

We may, at our option, elect to offer fractional shares or some multiple of shares of preferred stock, rather than individual shares of preferred stock. If we choose to do so, we will issue depositary receipts for depositary shares, each of which will represent a fraction or a multiple of a share of a particular series of preferred stock as described below.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms of any issuance of depositary shares. You should read the particular terms of any depositary shares we offer in any prospectus supplement, together with the more detailed form of deposit agreement, including the form of depositary receipt relating to the depositary shares, which will be filed as an exhibit to a document incorporated by reference in the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. The prospectus supplement also will state whether any of the terms summarized below do not apply to the depositary shares being offered.

## **Table of Contents**

*General.* The shares of any series of preferred stock represented by depositary shares will be deposited under a deposit agreement among us, a bank or trust company we select, with its principal executive office in the United States and a combined capital and surplus of at least \$50,000,000, as depositary, which we refer to as the preferred stock depositary, and the holders from time to time of depositary receipts issued under the agreement. Subject to the terms of the deposit agreement, each holder of a depositary share will be entitled, in proportion to the fraction or multiple of a share of preferred stock represented by that depositary share, to all the rights and preferences of the preferred stock represented by that depositary share, including dividend, voting and liquidation rights.

The depositary shares will be evidenced by depositary receipts issued under the deposit agreement. Depositary receipts will be distributed to those persons purchasing the fractional or multiple shares of the related series of preferred stock. Immediately following the issuance of shares of a series of preferred stock, we will deposit those shares with the preferred stock depositary, which will then issue and deliver the depositary receipts to the purchasers. Depositary receipts will only be issued evidencing whole depositary shares. A depositary receipt may evidence any number of whole depositary shares.

*Dividends and Other Distributions.* The preferred stock depositary will distribute all cash dividends or other cash distributions received on the related series of preferred stock to the record holders of depositary receipts relating to those series in proportion to the number of the depositary shares evidenced by depositary receipts those holders own.

If we make a distribution other than in cash, the preferred stock depositary will distribute the property it receives to the record holders of depositary receipts in proportion to the number of depositary shares evidenced by depositary receipts those holders own, unless the preferred stock depositary determines that the distribution cannot be made proportionately among those holders or that it is not feasible to make the distribution. In that event, the preferred stock depositary may, with our approval, sell the property and distribute the net proceeds to the holders in proportion to the number of depositary shares evidenced by depositary receipts they own.

The amount distributed to holders of depositary shares will be reduced by any amounts required to be withheld by us or the preferred stock depositary on account of taxes or other governmental charges.

*Conversion and Exchange.* If any series of preferred stock underlying the depositary shares is subject to conversion or exchange, the applicable prospectus supplement will describe the rights or obligations of each record holder of depositary receipts to convert or exchange the depositary shares.

*Voting the Preferred Stock.* Upon receiving notice of any meeting at which the holders of any series of the preferred stock are entitled to vote, the preferred stock depositary will mail the information contained in the notice of the meeting to the record holders of the depositary receipts relating to that series of preferred stock. Each record holder of the depositary receipts on the record date, which will be the same date as the record date for the related series of preferred stock, may instruct the preferred stock depositary how to exercise his or her voting rights. The preferred stock depositary will endeavor, insofar as practicable, to vote or cause to be voted the maximum number of whole shares of the preferred stock represented by those depositary shares in accordance with those instructions received sufficiently in advance of the meeting, and we will agree to take all reasonable action that may be deemed necessary by the preferred stock depositary in order to enable the preferred stock depositary to do so. The preferred stock depositary will abstain from voting shares of the preferred stock for which it does not receive specific instructions from the holder of the depositary shares representing them.

*Redemption of Depositary Shares.* Depositary shares will be redeemed from any proceeds received by the preferred stock depositary resulting from the redemption, in whole or in part, of the series of the preferred stock represented by those depositary shares. The redemption price per depositary share will equal the applicable fraction or multiple of the redemption price per share payable with respect to the series of the preferred stock. If we redeem shares of a series of preferred stock held by the preferred stock depositary, the preferred stock

## **Table of Contents**

depository will redeem as of the same redemption date the number of depository shares representing the shares of preferred stock that we redeem. If less than all the depository shares will be redeemed, the depository shares to be redeemed will be selected by lot or substantially equivalent method determined by the preferred stock depository.

After the date fixed for redemption, the depository shares called for redemption will no longer be deemed to be outstanding, and all rights of the holders of the depository shares will cease, except the right to receive the monies payable and any other property to which the holders were entitled upon the redemption upon surrender to the preferred stock depository of the depository receipts evidencing the depository shares. Any funds deposited by us with the preferred stock depository for any depository shares that the holders fail to redeem will be returned to us after a period of two years from the date the funds are deposited.

*Amendment and Termination of the Deposit Agreement.* We may amend the form of depository receipt evidencing the depository shares and any provision of the deposit agreement at any time and from time to time by agreement with the preferred stock depository. However, any amendment that materially and adversely alters the rights of the holders of depository receipts will not be effective unless it has been approved by the holders of at least a majority of the depository shares then outstanding. The deposit agreement will automatically terminate after there has been a final distribution on the related series of preferred stock in connection with our liquidation, dissolution or winding up and that distribution has been made to the holders of depository shares or all of the depository shares have been redeemed.

*Charges of Preferred Stock Depository.* We will pay all transfer and other taxes and governmental charges arising solely from the existence of the depository arrangements. We will pay all charges of the preferred stock depository in connection with the initial deposit of the related series of preferred stock, the initial issuance of the depository shares, all withdrawals of shares of the related series of preferred stock by holders of depository shares and the registration of transfers of title to any depository shares. However, holders of depository shares will pay other transfer and other taxes and governmental charges and the other charges expressly provided in the deposit agreement to be for their accounts.

*Corporate Trust Office of Preferred Stock Depository.* The preferred stock depository's corporate trust office will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to a series of depository shares. The preferred stock depository will act as transfer agent and registrar for depository receipts, and, if shares of a series of preferred stock are redeemable, the preferred stock depository will act as redemption agent for the corresponding depository receipts.

*Resignation and Removal of Preferred Stock Depository.* The preferred stock depository may resign at any time by delivering to us written notice of its election to do so, and we may at any time remove the preferred stock depository. Any resignation or removal will take effect upon the appointment of a successor preferred stock depository. A successor must be appointed by us within 60 days after delivery of the notice of resignation or removal and must be a bank or trust company having its principal office in the United States and a combined capital and surplus of at least \$50,000,000.

*Reports to Holders.* We will deliver all required reports and communications to holders of the preferred stock to the preferred stock depository, and it will forward those reports and communications to the holders of depository shares.

*Inspection by Holders.* Upon request, the preferred stock depository will provide for inspection to the holders of depository shares the transfer books of the depository and the list of holders of receipts; provided that any requesting holder certifies to the preferred stock depository that such inspection is for a proper purpose reasonably related to such person's interest as an owner of depository shares evidenced by the receipts.

**Table of Contents**

**DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES**

We may issue debt securities under an indenture between us and a U.S. banking institution, as the indenture trustee. Each indenture will be subject to, and governed by, the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, and we may supplement the indenture from time to time after we execute them.

This prospectus summarizes the material provisions of the indenture and the debt securities that we may issue under an indenture. This summary may not describe all of the provisions of the indenture or of any of the debt securities that might be important to you. For additional information, you should carefully read the forms of indenture that are incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

When we offer to sell a particular series of debt securities, we will describe the specific terms of those debt securities in a prospectus supplement. We will also indicate in the prospectus supplement whether the general terms in this prospectus apply to a particular series of debt securities. Accordingly, for a description of the terms of a particular issue of debt securities, you should carefully read both this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement.

*Terms.* The prospectus supplement will describe the debt securities and the price or prices at which we will offer the debt securities. The description will include:

the title and form of the debt securities;

any limit on the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities or the series of which they are a part;

the person to whom any interest on a debt security of the series will be paid;

the date or dates on which we must repay the principal;

the rate or rates at which the debt securities will bear interest;

the date or dates from which interest will accrue, and the dates on which we must pay interest;

the place or places where we must pay the principal and any premium or interest on the debt securities;

the terms and conditions on which we may redeem any debt security, if at all;

any obligation to redeem or purchase any debt securities, and the terms and conditions on which we must do so;

the denominations in which we may issue the debt securities;

the manner in which we will determine the amount of principal of or any premium or interest on the debt securities;

the currency in which we will pay the principal of and any premium or interest on the debt securities;

the principal amount of the debt securities that we will pay upon declaration of acceleration of their maturity;

the amount that will be deemed to be the principal amount for any purpose, including the principal amount that will be due and payable upon any maturity or that will be deemed to be outstanding as of any date;

if applicable, that the debt securities are defeasible and the terms of such defeasance;

if applicable, the terms of any right to convert debt securities into, or exchange debt securities for, shares of our debt securities, preferred stock or common stock or other securities or property;

whether we will issue the debt securities in the form of one or more global securities and, if so, the respective depositaries for the global securities and the terms of the global securities;

**Table of Contents**

the subordination provisions that will apply to any subordinated debt securities;

any addition to or change in the events of default applicable to the debt securities and any change in the right of the trustee or the holders to declare the principal amount of any of the debt securities due and payable;

a discussion of material United States federal income tax considerations;

any addition to or change in the covenants in the indentures; and

any other terms of the debt securities not inconsistent with the applicable indentures.

We may sell the debt securities at a substantial discount below their stated principal amount. We will describe U.S. federal income tax considerations, if any, applicable to debt securities sold at an original issue discount in the prospectus supplement. An original issue discount security is any debt security sold for less than its face value, and which provides that the holder cannot receive the full face value if maturity is accelerated. The prospectus supplement relating to any original issue discount securities will describe the particular provisions relating to acceleration of the maturity upon the occurrence of an event of default. In addition, we will describe U.S. federal income tax or other considerations applicable to any debt securities that are denominated in a currency or unit other than U.S. dollars in the prospectus supplement.

*Conversion and Exchange Rights.* The prospectus supplement will describe, if applicable, the terms on which you may convert debt securities into or exchange them for debt securities, preferred stock and common stock or other securities or property. The conversion or exchange may be mandatory or may be at your option. The prospectus supplement will describe how the amount of debt securities, number of shares of preferred stock and common stock or other securities or property to be received upon conversion or exchange would be calculated.

*Subordination of Subordinated Debt Securities.* The indebtedness underlying any subordinated debt securities will be payable only if all payments due under our senior indebtedness, as defined in the applicable indenture and any indenture supplement, including any outstanding senior debt securities, have been made. If we distribute our assets to creditors upon any dissolution, winding-up, liquidation or reorganization or in bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar proceedings, we must first pay all amounts due or to become due on all senior indebtedness before we pay the principal of, or any premium or interest on, the subordinated debt securities. In the event the subordinated debt securities are accelerated because of an event of default, we may not make any payment on the subordinated debt securities until we have paid all senior indebtedness or the acceleration is rescinded. If the payment of subordinated debt securities accelerates because of an event of default, we must promptly notify holders of senior indebtedness of the acceleration.

If we experience a bankruptcy, dissolution or reorganization, holders of senior indebtedness may receive more, ratably, and holders of subordinated debt securities may receive less, ratably, than our other creditors. The indenture for subordinated debt securities may not limit our ability to incur additional senior indebtedness.

*Form, Exchange, and Transfer.* We will issue debt securities only in fully registered form, without coupons, and only in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples thereof, unless the prospectus supplement provides otherwise. The holder of a debt security may elect, subject to the terms of the indentures and the limitations applicable to global securities, to exchange them for other debt securities of the same series of any authorized denomination and of similar terms and aggregate principal amount.

Holders of debt securities may present them for exchange as provided above or for registration of transfer, duly endorsed or with the form of transfer duly executed, at the office of the transfer agent we designate for that purpose. We will not impose a service charge for any registration of transfer or exchange of debt securities, but we may require a payment sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection with the transfer or exchange. We will name the transfer agent in the prospectus supplement. We may designate

## **Table of Contents**

additional transfer agents or rescind the designation of any transfer agent or approve a change in the office through which any transfer agent acts, but we must maintain a transfer agent in each place where we will make payment on debt securities.

If we redeem the debt securities, we will not be required to issue, register the transfer of or exchange any debt security during a specified period prior to mailing a notice of redemption. We are not required to register the transfer of or exchange of any debt security selected for redemption, except the unredeemed portion of the debt security being redeemed.

*Global Securities.* The debt securities may be represented, in whole or in part, by one or more global securities that will have an aggregate principal amount equal to that of all debt securities of that series. Each global security will be registered in the name of a depository identified in the prospectus supplement. We will deposit the global security with the depository or a custodian, and the global security will bear a legend regarding the restrictions on exchanges and registration of transfer.

No global security may be exchanged in whole or in part for debt securities registered, and no transfer of a global security in whole or in part may be registered, in the name of any person other than the depository or any nominee or successor of the depository unless:

the depository is unwilling or unable to continue as depository; or

the depository is no longer in good standing under the Exchange Act or other applicable statute or regulation.

The depository will determine how all securities issued in exchange for a global security will be registered.

As long as the depository or its nominee is the registered holder of a global security, we will consider the depository or the nominee to be the sole owner and holder of the global security and the underlying debt securities. Except as stated above, owners of beneficial interests in a global security will not be entitled to have the global security or any debt security registered in their names, will not receive physical delivery of certificated debt securities and will not be considered to be the owners or holders of the global security or underlying debt securities. We will make all payments of principal, premium and interest on a global security to the depository or its nominee. The laws of some jurisdictions require that some purchasers of securities take physical delivery of such securities in definitive form. These laws may prevent you from transferring your beneficial interests in a global security.

Only institutions that have accounts with the depository or its nominee and persons that hold beneficial interests through the depository or its nominee may own beneficial interests in a global security. The depository will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the respective principal amounts of debt securities represented by the global security to the accounts of its participants. Ownership of beneficial interests in a global security will be shown only on, and the transfer of those ownership interests will be effected only through, records maintained by the depository or any such participant.

The policies and procedures of the depository may govern payments, transfers, exchanges and others matters relating to beneficial interests in a global security. We and the trustee will assume no responsibility or liability for any aspect of the depository's or any participant's records relating to, or for payments made on account of, beneficial interests in a global security.

*Payment and Paying Agents.* We will pay principal and any premium or interest on a debt security to the person in whose name the debt security is registered at the close of business on the regular record date for such interest.

We will pay principal and any premium or interest on the debt securities at the office of our designated paying agent. Unless the prospectus supplement and/or free writing prospectus indicates otherwise, the corporate trust office of the trustee will be the paying agent for the debt securities.

## Table of Contents

Any other paying agents we designate for the debt securities of a particular series will be named in the prospectus supplement and/or free writing prospectus. We may designate additional paying agents, rescind the designation of any paying agent or approve a change in the office through which any paying agent acts, but we must maintain a paying agent in each place of payment for the debt securities.

The paying agent will return to us all money we pay to it for the payment of the principal, premium or interest on any debt security that remains unclaimed for a specified period. Thereafter, the holder may look only to us for payment, as an unsecured general creditor.

*Consolidation, Merger, and Sale of Assets.* Under the terms of the indentures, so long as any securities remain outstanding, we may not consolidate or enter into a share exchange with or merge into any other person (other than a subsidiary), in a transaction in which we are not the surviving corporation, or sell, convey, transfer or lease our properties and assets substantially as an entirety to any person, unless:

the successor assumes our obligations under the debt securities and the indentures; and

we meet the other conditions described in the indentures.

*Events of Default.* Each of the following will constitute an event of default under each indenture:

failure to pay the principal of or any premium on any debt security when due;

failure to pay any interest on any debt security when due, for more than a specified number of days past the due date;

failure to deposit any sinking fund payment when due;

failure to perform any covenant or agreement in the indenture that continues for a specified number of days after written notice has been given by the trustee or the holders of a specified percentage in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of that series;

events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization; and

any other event of default specified in the prospectus supplement.

If an event of default occurs and continues, both the trustee and holders of a specified percentage in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding securities of that series may declare the principal amount of the debt securities of that series to be immediately due and payable. The holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding securities of that series may rescind and annul the acceleration if all events of default, other than the nonpayment of accelerated principal, have been cured or waived.

Except for its duties in case of an event of default, the trustee will not be obligated to exercise any of its rights or powers at the request or direction of any of the holders, unless the holders have offered the trustee reasonable indemnity. If they provide this indemnification and subject to conditions specified in the applicable indenture, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding securities of any series may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee with respect to the debt securities of that series.

No holder of a debt security of any series may institute any proceeding with respect to the indentures, or for the appointment of a receiver or a trustee, or for any other remedy, unless:



Edgar Filing: FIRST COMMONWEALTH FINANCIAL CORP /PA/ - Form S-3

the holder has previously given the trustee written notice of a continuing event of default;

the holders of a specified percentage in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding securities of that series have made a written request upon the trustee, and have offered reasonable indemnity to the trustee, to institute the proceeding;

the trustee has failed to institute the proceeding for a specified period of time after its receipt of the notification; and

## Table of Contents

the trustee has not received a direction inconsistent with the request within a specified number of days from the holders of a specified percentage in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding securities of that series.

*Modification and Waiver.* We and the trustee may change an indenture without the consent of any holders with respect to specific matters, including:

to fix any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency in the indenture; and

to change anything that does not materially adversely affect the interests of any holder of debt securities of any series.

In addition, under the indentures, the rights of holders of a series of notes may be changed by us and the trustee with the written consent of the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of each series that is affected. However, we and the trustee may only make the following changes with the consent of the holder of any outstanding debt securities affected:

extending the fixed maturity of the series of notes;

reducing the principal amount, reducing the rate of or extending the time of payment of interest, or any premium payable upon the redemption, of any debt securities; or

reducing the percentage of debt securities the holders of which are required to consent to any amendment.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series may waive any past default under the indenture with respect to debt securities of that series, except a default in the payment of principal, premium or interest on any debt security of that series or in respect of a covenant or provision of the indenture that cannot be amended without each holder's consent.

Except in limited circumstances, we may set any day as a record date for the purpose of determining the holders of outstanding debt securities of any series entitled to give or take any direction, notice, consent, waiver or other action under the indentures. In limited circumstances, the trustee may set a record date. To be effective, the action must be taken by holders of the requisite principal amount of such debt securities within a specified period following the record date.

*Defeasance.* To the extent stated in the prospectus supplement and/or free writing prospectus, we may elect to apply the provisions in the indentures relating to defeasance and discharge of indebtedness, or to defeasance of restrictive covenants, to the debt securities of any series. The indentures provide that, upon satisfaction of the requirements described below, we may terminate all of our obligations under the debt securities of any series and the applicable indenture, known as legal defeasance, other than our obligation:

to maintain a registrar and paying agents and hold monies for payment in trust;

to register the transfer or exchange of the notes; and

to replace mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen notes.

In addition, we may terminate our obligation to comply with any restrictive covenants under the debt securities of any series or the applicable indenture, known as covenant defeasance.

We may exercise our legal defeasance option even if we have previously exercised our covenant defeasance option. If we exercise either defeasance option, payment of the notes may not be accelerated because of the occurrence of events of default.

To exercise either defeasance option as to debt securities of any series, we must irrevocably deposit in trust with the trustee money and/or obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States that will provide

## **Table of Contents**

money in an amount sufficient in the written opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants to pay the principal of, premium, if any, and each installment of interest on the debt securities. We may only establish this trust if, among other things:

no event of default shall have occurred or be continuing;

in the case of legal defeasance, we have delivered to the trustee an opinion of counsel to the effect that we have received from, or there has been published by, the Internal Revenue Service a ruling or there has been a change in law, which in the opinion of our counsel, provides that holders of the debt securities will not recognize gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such deposit, defeasance and discharge and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amount, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such deposit, defeasance and discharge had not occurred;

in the case of covenant defeasance, we have delivered to the trustee an opinion of counsel to the effect that the holders of the debt securities will not recognize gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such deposit, defeasance and discharge and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amount, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such deposit, defeasance and discharge had not occurred; and

we satisfy other customary conditions precedent described in the applicable indenture.

*Notices.* We will mail notices to holders of debt securities as indicated in the prospectus supplement and/or free writing prospectus.

*Title.* We may treat the person in whose name a debt security is registered as the absolute owner, whether or not such debt security may be overdue, for the purpose of making payment and for all other purposes.

*Governing Law.* The indentures and the debt securities will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

## **DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS**

We may issue warrants for the purchase of common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares and debt securities. Warrants may be issued separately or together with common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares or debt securities offered by any prospectus supplement and may be attached to or separate from such common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares or debt securities. Each series of warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into between us and a bank or trust corporation, as warrant agent, all as set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to the particular issue of offered warrants. The warrant agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the warrants and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders of warrants or beneficial owners of warrants. Copies of the forms of warrant agreements, including the forms of warrant certificates representing the warrants, will be filed as exhibits to a document incorporated by reference in the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

This section describes the general terms and provisions of the warrants offered by this prospectus. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms of any issuance of warrants. You should read the particular terms of any warrants we offer in any prospectus supplement, together with the more detailed form of warrant agreement and the form of warrant certificate. The prospectus supplement also will state whether any of the terms summarized below do not apply to the warrants being offered.

*General.* The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of the warrants and applicable warrant agreement, including the following, where applicable:

the title of the warrants;

**Table of Contents**

the offering price for the warrants, if any;

the aggregate number of warrants offered and the aggregate number of warrants outstanding as of the most practicable date;

the designation and terms of the debt securities, common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares, if any, purchasable upon exercise of the warrants;

the designation and terms of the debt securities, common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares, if any, with which the warrants are issued and the number of warrants issued with each of these securities;

the date after which the warrants and any debt securities, common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares, if any, issued with the warrants will be separately transferable;

the principal amount of debt securities purchasable upon exercise of a warrant and the purchase price;

the dates on which the right to exercise the warrants begins and expires;

the minimum or maximum amount of the warrants that may be exercised at any one time;

whether the warrants represented by warrant certificates or debt securities that may be issued upon exercise of the warrants will be issued in registered or bearer form;

information with respect to any book-entry procedures;

the currency, currencies or currency units in which the offering price, if any, and the exercise price are payable;

a discussion of certain United States federal income tax considerations;

any anti-dilution provisions of the warrants;

any redemption or call provisions applicable to the warrants; and

any additional terms of the warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the warrants.

Warrant certificates may be exchanged for new warrant certificates of different denominations, may be presented for registration of transfer, and may be exercised at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement. Prior to the exercise of any warrant to purchase debt securities, holders of such warrants will not have any of the rights of holders of the debt securities purchasable upon such exercise, including the right to receive payments of principal of, premium, if any, or interest, if any, on the debt securities

purchasable upon such exercise or to enforce covenants in the applicable indenture. Prior to the exercise of any warrants to purchase preferred stock, depositary shares or common stock, holders of such warrants will not have any rights of holders of the preferred stock, depositary shares or common stock purchasable upon such exercise, including the right to receive payments of dividends, if any, on the preferred stock, depositary shares or common stock purchasable upon such exercise or to exercise any applicable right to vote.

*Exercise of Warrants.* Each warrant will entitle the holder to purchase such principal amount of debt securities or shares of common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares, as the case may be, at such exercise price as shall in each case be set forth in, or calculable from, the prospectus supplement relating to the offered warrants. After the close of business on the expiration date of the warrants (or such later date to which such expiration date may be extended by us), unexercised warrants will become void.

Warrants may be exercised by delivering to the warrant agent payment as provided in the applicable prospectus supplement of the amount required to purchase the common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares or debt securities, as the case may be, purchasable upon such exercise together with certain information set forth on the reverse side of the warrant certificate. Warrants will be deemed to have been exercised upon receipt of

## **Table of Contents**

payment of the exercise price, subject to the receipt, within five business days, of the warrant certificate evidencing such warrants. Upon receipt of such payment and the warrant certificate properly completed and duly executed at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will, as soon as practicable, issue and deliver the common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares or debt securities, as the case may be, purchasable upon such exercise. If fewer than all of the warrants represented by the warrant certificate are exercised, a new warrant certificate will be issued for the remaining amount of warrants.

*Warrant Adjustments.* Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the exercise price of, and the number of shares of common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares covered by, a stock warrant are subject to adjustment in certain events, including:

the issuance of a stock dividend to the holders of common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares, respectively;

a combination, subdivision or reclassification of common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares, respectively; and

any other event described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

In lieu of adjusting the number of shares of common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares purchasable upon exercise of each stock warrant, we may elect to adjust the number of stock warrants. We may, at our option, reduce the exercise price at any time. No fractional shares will be issued upon exercise of stock warrants, but we will pay the cash value of any fractional shares otherwise issuable.

## **Anti-Takeover Provisions**

Certain provisions of our articles of incorporation and bylaws and certain provisions of the PBCL may have the effect of deterring or discouraging, among other things, a hostile tender offer for our stock, a proxy contest for control of us, the assumption of control of us by a holder of a large block of our stock or the removal of our management, even if such actions may be deemed advantageous to our shareholders. These provisions are summarized below.

*Restrictions on Call of Special Meetings.* Our bylaws provide that special meetings of shareholders can be called only by a majority of the board of directors or by shareholders entitled to cast at least 20% of the votes that all shareholders are entitled to cast at the meeting.

*Prohibition of Cumulative Voting.* Our articles of incorporation prohibit cumulative voting for the election of directors.

*Authority to Oppose Unsolicited Offers.* Our articles of incorporation authorize the board of directors to take defensive actions to oppose a tender offer or other offer for our securities if the board determines that the offer should be rejected after considering, among other things, the offer price, the impact of the potential transaction on our employees and customers and the communities that we serve, the reputation and business practices of the offeror and its management, and any antitrust or regulatory issues that are raised by the offer. If the board of directors determines that the offer should be rejected, it is authorized to take any lawful action against the offer, including advising shareholders to reject the offer, commencing litigation against the offeror, acquiring or selling our securities or granting options to purchase our securities, acquiring another company and seeking a more favorable offer from another party.

*Authorized but Unissued Shares.* First Commonwealth Financial Corporation has authorized but unissued shares of common and preferred stock. The articles of incorporation authorize 3,000,000 shares of preferred stock. We are authorized to issue preferred stock from time to time subject to applicable provisions of law. In the event of a proposed merger, tender offer or other attempt to gain control of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation that the board of directors does not approve, it might be possible

## **Table of Contents**

for the board of directors to authorize the issuance of a series of preferred stock with rights and preferences that would impede the completion of the transaction. An effect of the possible issuance of preferred stock, therefore, may be to deter a future attempt to gain control of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation. The board of directors has no present plan or understanding to issue any preferred stock.

*Control Share Acquisitions.* Pennsylvania law regarding control share acquisitions relates to the act of acquiring for the first time voting power over voting shares (other than shares owned since January 1, 1988 and any additional shares distributed with respect to such shares) equal to at least 20%, 33 1/3% and 50% of the voting power of a corporation. Once a control share acquisition has occurred, then all shares in excess of the triggering threshold, plus shares purchased at any time with the intention of acquiring such voting power and shares purchased within 180 days of the date the triggering threshold was exceeded, are considered control shares. Control shares cannot vote either until their voting rights have been restored by two separate votes of the shareholders at a meeting or until they have been transferred to a person who does not thereby also become the holder of a control share acquisition.

The holder of a control share acquisition may wait until the next annual or special meeting after the acquisition took place to submit the question of the restoration of voting rights to the shareholders, or the acquiring person may accelerate the process by agreeing to underwrite the cost of a special meeting of shareholders for that purpose. In either case, the acquiring person is required to furnish for distribution to the shareholders an information statement containing a detailed disclosure concerning the acquiring person, its intentions with respect to ownership of securities of the corporation and other matters. As an alternative, a person proposing to make a control share acquisition may request prospective approval by the shareholders of the exercise of the voting rights of the shares proposed to be acquired. Two shareholders' votes are required to approve the restoration of voting rights. First, the approval of an absolute majority of all voting power must be obtained. All voting shares are entitled to participate in this vote. Second, the approval of an absolute majority of all disinterested shareholders must be obtained.

For a period of 24 months after the later of (i) a control share acquisition by an acquiring person who does not properly request consideration of voting rights or (ii) the denial of such a request or lapse of voting rights, the corporation may redeem all the control shares at the average public market sales price of the shares on the date notice of the call for redemption is given by the corporation.

*Disgorgement of Profits by Certain Controlling Persons.* Pennsylvania law regarding disgorgement of profits by certain controlling persons applies in the event that (i) any person or group publicly discloses that the person or group may acquire control of the corporation, or (ii) a person or group acquires (or publicly discloses an intent to acquire) 20% or more of the voting power of the corporation and, in either case, sells shares within 18 months thereafter. Any profits from sales of equity securities of the corporation received by the person or group during such 18-month period will belong to the corporation, if the securities that were sold were acquired during the 18-month period or within 24 months prior thereto.

*Business Combinations with Interested Shareholders.* Pennsylvania law regarding business combinations with interested shareholders provides that a person who acquires the direct or indirect beneficial ownership of shares entitled to cast at least 20% of the votes entitled to be cast for the election of directors becomes an interested shareholder. A corporation subject to this provision may not effect mergers or certain other business combinations with the interested shareholder for a period of five years, unless:

the business combination or the acquisition of stock by means of which the interested shareholder became an interested shareholder is approved by the corporation's board of directors prior to such stock acquisition;

the business combination is approved by the affirmative vote of the holders of all the outstanding common shares of the corporation;  
or



## **Table of Contents**

the business combination is approved by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of all shares entitled to vote, excluding votes of shares held by the interested shareholders, and at the time of such vote, the interested shareholder is the beneficial owner of at least 80% of the voting shares of the corporation. This exception applies only if the value of the consideration to be paid by the interested shareholder in connection with the business combination satisfies certain fair price requirements.

After the five-year restricted period, an interested shareholder may engage in a business combination with the corporation if (i) the business combination is approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares other than those beneficially owned by the interested shareholder and its affiliates or (ii) the merger is approved at a shareholders' meeting and certain fair price requirements are met.

*Rights of Shareholders to Demand Fair Value for Stock Following a Control Transaction.* Pennsylvania law regarding the ability of shareholders to dispose of their stock following a control transaction provides, generally, that a person or group that acquires more than 20% of the voting power to elect directors of the corporation is a controlling person and must give prompt notice to each shareholder of record. The other shareholders are then entitled to demand that the controlling person pay them the fair value of their shares under specified procedures. Fair value may not be less than the highest price paid per share by the controlling person at any time during the 90-day period ending on and including the date on which the controlling person became such, plus any increment representing any value, such as a control premium, that is not reflected in such price.

## **PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION**

We may sell the offered securities:

directly to purchasers;

through agents;

through dealers;

through underwriters;

directly to our shareholders; or

through a combination of any of these methods of sale.

The prospectus supplement relating to a series of the offered securities will set forth its offering terms, including the name or names of any underwriters, dealers or agents, the purchase price of the offered securities and the proceeds to us from the sale, any underwriting discounts, commissions and other items constituting underwriters' compensation, any initial public offering price and any underwriting discounts, commissions and other items allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers or agents and any securities exchanges on which the offered securities may be listed.

We may use one or more underwriters in the sale of the offered securities, in which case the offered securities will be acquired by the underwriter or underwriters for their own account and may be resold from time to time in one or more transactions either:

at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed;

at market prices prevailing at the time of sale;

at prices related to the prevailing market prices; or

at negotiated prices.

## **Table of Contents**

Offerings of securities covered by this prospectus may also be made into an existing trading market for such securities in transactions at other than a fixed price, either:

on or through the facilities of the NYSE or any other securities exchange or quotation or trading service on which such securities may be listed, quoted or traded at the time of sale; and/or

to or through a market maker otherwise than on the NYSE or such other securities exchanges or quotation or trading services. Such at-the-market offerings, if any, may be conducted by underwriters acting as our principal or agent, who may also be third-party sellers of securities as described above.

In addition, we may sell some or all of the securities covered by this prospectus through:

purchases by a dealer, as principal, who may then resell those securities to the public for its account at varying prices determined by the dealer at the time of resale or at a fixed price agreed to with us at the time of sale;

block trades in which a dealer will attempt to sell as agent, but may position or resell a portion of the block, as principal, in order to facilitate the transaction; and/or

ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which a broker-dealer solicits purchasers.

We may directly solicit offers to purchase offered securities. Agents designated by us from time to time may also solicit offers to purchase offered securities. Any agent designated by us, who may be deemed to be an underwriter as that term is defined in the Securities Act, involved in the offer or sale of the offered securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered will be named, and any commissions payable by us to such agent will be set forth in the prospectus supplement.

If a dealer is utilized in the sale of the offered securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered, we will sell the offered securities to the dealer, as principal. The dealer, who may be deemed to be an underwriter as that term is defined in the Securities Act, may then resell the offered securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by the dealer at the time of resale.

If an underwriter is, or underwriters are, used in the sale, we will execute an underwriting agreement with the underwriters at the time of sale to the underwriters. The names of the underwriters will be set forth in the prospectus supplement, which will be used by the underwriter to make resales of the offered securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered to the public. In connection with the sale of offered securities, the underwriter may be deemed to have received compensation from us in the form of underwriting discounts or commissions and may also receive commissions from purchasers of offered securities for whom they may act as agents. Underwriters may also sell offered securities to or through dealers, and the dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters and/or commissions from the purchasers for whom they may act as agents.

If so indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will authorize underwriters, dealers or other persons to solicit offers by certain institutions to purchase offered securities from us at the public offering price set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on a future date or dates. Institutions with which these contracts may be made include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, educational and charitable institutions and others. The obligations of any purchasers under any delayed delivery contract will not be subject to any conditions except that:

the purchase of the offered securities shall not at the time of delivery be prohibited under the laws of the jurisdiction to which the purchaser is subject; and



## **Table of Contents**

if the offered securities are also being sold to underwriters, we will have sold to the underwriters the offered securities not sold for delayed delivery.

The underwriters, dealers and other persons will not have any responsibility in respect of the validity or performance of such contracts. The prospectus supplement relating to the contracts will set forth the price to be paid for offered securities pursuant to the contracts, the commission payable for solicitation of the contracts and the date or dates in the future for delivery of offered securities pursuant to the contracts.

Offered securities may also be offered and sold, if so indicated in the prospectus supplement, in connection with a remarketing upon their purchase, in accordance with a redemption or repayment pursuant to their terms, or otherwise, by one or more remarketing firms, acting as principals for their own accounts or as agents for us. Any remarketing firm will be identified and the terms of its agreement, if any, with us and its compensation will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Remarketing firms may be deemed to be underwriters in connection with their remarketing of offered securities.

Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, the obligations of underwriters to purchase the offered securities will be subject to certain conditions precedent, and such underwriters will be obligated to purchase all such securities, if any are purchased. In connection with the offering of securities, we may grant to the underwriters an option to purchase additional securities to cover over-allotments at the initial public offering price, with an additional underwriting commission, as may be set forth in the accompanying prospectus supplement. If we grant any over-allotment option, the terms of such over-allotment option will be set forth in the prospectus supplement for such securities.

Underwriters, dealers, remarketing firms and agents may be entitled, under agreements that may be entered into with us, to indemnification by us against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribution with respect to payments which they may be required to make in respect thereof and may engage in transactions with, or perform services for, us in the ordinary course of business.

Any underwriter may engage in over-allotment, stabilizing transactions, short-covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Securities Exchange Act. Over-allotment involves sales in excess of the offering size, which create a short position. Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum. Short-covering transactions involve purchases of the securities in the open market after the distribution is completed to cover short positions. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a dealer when the securities originally sold by the dealer are purchased in a covering transaction to cover short positions. Those activities may cause the price of the securities to be higher than it would otherwise be. If commenced, the underwriters may discontinue any of the activities at any time.

The anticipated date of delivery of offered securities will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to each offer.

## **LEGAL MATTERS**

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the validity of the securities offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Matthew C. Tomb, Esq., Senior Vice President and corporate legal counsel of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation, and Day Pitney LLP, New York, New York.

## **EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2009 and 2008, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2009, and

**Table of Contents**

the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2009, have been audited by KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, and have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the reports of such firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing. As discussed in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements First Commonwealth Financial Corporation changed its methods of accounting for other-than-temporary impairments in 2009.

**WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**

We have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission a registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933 that registers the offer and sale of the securities offered by this prospectus. This prospectus is part of the registration statement, but the registration statement, including the accompanying exhibits included or incorporated by reference therein, contains additional relevant information about us. The rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission allow us to omit certain information included in the registration statement from this prospectus.

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission. You may read and copy any document we file at the Securities and Exchange Commission's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Our Securities and Exchange Commission filings are also available to the public on the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) and on our website at [www.fcbanking.com](http://www.fcbanking.com). We have included the Securities and Exchange Commission's internet address and our internet address as inactive textual references only. Except as specifically incorporated by reference in this prospectus, information on those websites is not part of this prospectus.

**Table of Contents****PART II****INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUSES****ITEM 14. OTHER EXPENSES OF ISSUANCE AND DISTRIBUTION**

The following table sets forth the various expenses payable by First Commonwealth Financial Corporation in connection with the securities being registered hereby.

Securities and Exchange Commission Registration Fee	\$ 21,390
Printing and EDGAR expenses*	10,000
Legal fees and expenses*	35,000
Accounting fees and expenses*	10,000
Transfer agent fees	(1)
Trustee fee	(1)
Warrant agent fee	(1)
Miscellaneous*	(1)
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 76,390</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> To be filed by amendment or in a current report on Form 8-K.

\* Estimated.

**ITEM 15. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

*Indemnification under First Commonwealth Financial Corporation's Bylaws.* Our bylaws require us to indemnify our directors and officers against expenses and liabilities to the fullest extent permitted by law. Any director or officer who is made, or threatened to be made, a party to any claim, action, suit or proceeding by reason of such person being or having been a director or officer of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation or a subsidiary of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation, or by reason of the fact that such person is or was serving at the request of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation as a director, officer, employee, fiduciary or other representative of another corporation or entity, will be entitled to indemnification. The bylaws further provide that such indemnification is not exclusive of any other rights to which such individual may be entitled under the bylaws, any agreement, charter provision, vote of shareholders or directors, or otherwise.

*Indemnification under the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law.* The Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law authorizes indemnification of a director or officer against expenses and liabilities if such person acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation, and, with respect to any criminal proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful. Indemnification may be made only upon a determination that indemnification of the director or officer is proper under the circumstances because the director or officer has met this standard of care.

The determination may be made:

by the board of directors of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of directors who were not parties to the action or proceeding; or

if such a quorum is not obtainable, or, if obtainable and a majority vote of a quorum of disinterested directors so directs, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion; or

## Edgar Filing: FIRST COMMONWEALTH FINANCIAL CORP /PA/ - Form S-3

by shareholders of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation.

Notwithstanding the above, to the extent that a director or officer has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action or proceeding, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter in any such action or proceeding, such person is entitled to indemnification against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred in connection with the action or proceeding.

II-1



**Table of Contents**

*Limitation of Liability under First Commonwealth Financial Corporation's Bylaws.* Our bylaws provide that no director or officer of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation will be liable by reason of having been a director or officer of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation if the person performs his or her duties in good faith and in a manner reasonably believed to be in the best interests of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation. This standard will be satisfied if the person acted without self-dealing, willful misconduct or recklessness.

*Directors and Officers Liability Insurance.* First Commonwealth Financial Corporation maintains liability insurance covering its directors and officers for claims asserted against them or incurred by them in their capacity as directors and officers, within the limits and subject to the limitations of the policies, and First Commonwealth Financial Corporation pays all premiums and expenses relating to this coverage.

**ITEM 16. EXHIBITS**

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
1.1	Form of Underwriting Agreement (Common Stock)*.
1.2	Form of Underwriting Agreement (Preferred Stock)*
1.3	Form of Underwriting Agreement (Debt Securities)*
4.1	Form of Senior Debt Securities Indenture
4.2	Form of Subordinated Debt Securities Indenture
4.3	Form of Senior Debt Security (included in Exhibit 4.1)
4.4	Form of Subordinated Debt Security (included in Exhibit 4.2)
4.5	Form of Warrant Agreement (Stock) (including form of warrant)*
4.6	Form of Warrant Agreement (Debt) (including form of warrant)*
4.7	Form of Depositary Agreement*
4.8	Form of Depositary Receipt (to be included in Exhibit 4.7, if necessary)*
4.9	Specimen of Preferred Stock Certificate *
4.10	Form of Certificate of Designation of Preferred Stock*
5.1	Opinion of Matthew C. Tomb, Senior Vice President and Corporate Legal Counsel of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation, as to the validity of the securities being issued
5.2	Opinion of Day Pitney LLP as to the validity of the securities being issued
12.1	Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges
23.1	Consent of KPMG LLP
23.2	Consent of Matthew C. Tomb, Senior Vice President and Corporate Legal Counsel of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation (set forth in Exhibit 5.1)
23.3	Consent of Day Pitney LLP (set forth in Exhibit 5.2)
24.1	Power of Attorney (set forth on the signature pages to this Registration Statement)
25.1	Statement of Eligibility of Trustee on Form T-1**

\* To be filed, if necessary, by amendment or as an exhibit to a document to be incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference to this Registration Statement.

\*\*

Edgar Filing: FIRST COMMONWEALTH FINANCIAL CORP /PA/ - Form S-3

To be filed, if necessary, subsequent to the effectiveness of this Registration Statement pursuant to Section 305(b)(2) of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended.

II-2

**Table of Contents**

**ITEM 17. UNDERTAKINGS**

(a) The registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the Registration Statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the SEC pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective Registration Statement;

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the Registration Statement or any material change to such information in the Registration Statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (1)(i), (1)(ii) and (1)(iii) above do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the Registration Statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

(i) Each prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the Registration Statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the Registration Statement; and

(ii) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by Section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the Registration Statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the Registration Statement relating to the securities in the Registration Statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the Registration Statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the Registration Statement or prospectus that is part of the Registration Statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the Registration

**Table of Contents**

Statement or prospectus that was part of the Registration Statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.

(5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities: The undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this Registration Statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

(i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

(ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;

(iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and

(iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

(b) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the undersigned registrant pursuant to the provisions set forth or described in Item 15 of this Registration Statement, or otherwise, the registrant has been informed that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933, and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question of whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933, and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

(d) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that:

(1) For purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of this registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in a form of prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(1) or (4) under the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of this Registration Statement as of the time it was declared effective.

(2) For the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each post-effective amendment that contains a form of prospectus shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

**Table of Contents**

(e) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes to file an application for the purpose of determining the eligibility of the trustee to act under Subsection (a) of Section 310 of the Trust Indenture Act in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the Commission under Section 305(b)(2) of the Trust Indenture Act.

II-5

**Table of Contents**

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, hereunto duly authorized, in the Borough of Indiana, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, on April 1, 2010.

**FIRST COMMONWEALTH FINANCIAL CORPORATION**

By /s/ John J. Dolan  
Name: John J. Dolan

Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints John J. Dolan and Robert E. Rout, and each of them, as his or her true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him or her and in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this registration statement, and to file the same with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or either of them, or their or his substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<b>Signature</b>	<b>Capacity</b>	<b>Date</b>
/s/ John J. Dolan	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director	April 1, 2010
John J. Dolan	(Principal Executive Officer)	
/s/ Robert E. Rout	Executive Vice President / Chief Financial Officer	April 1, 2010
Robert E. Rout	(Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)	
/s/ Julie A. Caponi	Director	April 1, 2010
Julie A. Caponi		
/s/ Ray T. Charley	Director	April 1, 2010
Ray T. Charley		
/s/ Julia E. Trimarchi Cuccaro	Director	April 1, 2010
Julia E. Trimarchi Cuccaro		

**Table of Contents**

<b>Signature</b>	<b>Capacity</b>	<b>Date</b>
/s/ David S. Dahlmann David S. Dahlmann	Director	April 1, 2010
/s/ Johnston A. Glass Johnston A. Glass	Director	April 1, 2010
/s/ Dale P. Latimer Dale P. Latimer	Director	April 1, 2010
/s/ James W. Newill James W. Newill	Director	April 1, 2010
/s/ Laurie S. Singer Laurie S. Singer	Director	April 1, 2010
/s/ David R. Tomb, Jr. David R. Tomb, Jr.	Director	April 1, 2010
/s/ Robert J. Ventura Robert J. Ventura	Director	April 1, 2010

**Table of Contents**

**EXHIBITS**

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
1.1	Form of Underwriting Agreement (Common Stock)*
1.2	Form of Underwriting Agreement (Preferred Stock)*
1.3	Form of Underwriting Agreement (Debt Securities)*
4.1	Form of Senior Debt Securities Indenture
4.2	Form of Subordinated Debt Securities Indenture
4.3	Form of Senior Debt Security (included in Exhibit 4.1)
4.4	Form of Subordinated Debt Security (included in Exhibit 4.2)
4.5	Form of Warrant Agreement (Stock) (including form of warrant)*
4.6	Form of Warrant Agreement (Debt) (including form of warrant)*
4.7	Form of Depositary Agreement*
4.8	Form of Depositary Receipt (to be included in Exhibit 4.7, if necessary)*
4.9	Specimen of Preferred Stock Certificate*
4.10	Form of Certificate of Designation of Preferred Stock*
5.1	Opinion of Matthew C. Tomb, Senior Vice President and Corporate Legal Counsel of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation, as to the validity of the securities being issued
5.2	Opinion of Day Pitney LLP as to the validity of the securities being issued
12.1	Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges
23.1	Consent of KPMG LLP
23.2	Consent of Matthew C. Tomb, Senior Vice President and Corporate Legal Counsel of First Commonwealth Financial Corporation (set forth in Exhibit 5.1)
23.3	Consent of Day Pitney LLP (set forth in Exhibit 5.2)
24.1	Power of Attorney (set forth on the signature pages to this Registration Statement)
25.1	Statement of Eligibility of Trustee on Form T-1**

\* To be filed, if necessary, by amendment or as an exhibit to a document to be incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference to this Registration Statement.

\*\* To be filed, if necessary, subsequent to the effectiveness of this Registration Statement pursuant to Section 305(b)(2) of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended.