

MURPHY ARTHUR T  
Form 4  
March 18, 2003

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

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Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Filed By Romeo & Dye's Instant Form 4 Filer  
www.section16.net

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <b>Murphy Arthur T</b> (Last) (First) (Middle) <b>42 Prescott Avenue</b>  (Street) <b>Bronxville, NY 10708</b>			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <b>First Albany Companies Inc(FACT)</b>			6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) <b>Executive Managing Director</b>		
			3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (voluntary)			4. Statement for Month/Day/Year <b>3/03</b>		
						5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)		
						7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)			2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)		2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 & 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transactions(s) (Instr. 3 & 4)		6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
							Code V		Amount	(A) or (D)	Price				
Common Stock			3/14/03				A		25,000 <sup>(1)</sup>	A	\$8.00	247,483		D	

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

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

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**FORM 4 (continued) Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 & 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security:	11. Nature of Indirect or Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
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	Year)	Year)	of (D)		Date	Expira- tion Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	
			(Instr. 3, 4 & 5)	(A) (D)							Date Exer-cisable
<b>Stock Option</b>	<b>\$8.00</b>	<b>3/14/03</b>		<b>A</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<u>(2)</u>	<b>3/14/13</b>	<b>Common</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>D</b>

Explanation of Responses:

- (1) Grant of restricted Stock subject to vesting in three equal installments of approximately 33% , over a three year period,commencing on 3/14/04 through 3/14/06.
- (2) The option vests in three equal installments of approximately 33% ,over a three year period,commencing on 3/14/04 through 3/14/06.

By: /s/ **Stephen Wink As Attorney In Fact For Arthur  
Murphy** **3/18/03**  
Date

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

\*\*Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations.  
See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed.  
If space is insufficient, See Instruction 6 for procedure.

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POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know all by these presents, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints each of Stephen Wink and Patricia Arciero-Craig, signing singly, the undersigned's true and lawful attorney-in-fact to:

(1) execute for and on behalf of the undersigned, in the undersigned's capacity as an officer and/or director of First Albany Companies Inc.(FACT) (the "Company"), Forms 4, and 5 in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules thereunder;

(2) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to complete and execute any such Form 4, or 5, complete and execute any amendment or amendments thereto, and file such form with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any stock exchange or similar authority; and

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(3) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in such attorney-in-fact's discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to each such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform any and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary, or proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution or revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact, or such attorney-in-fact's substitute or substitutes, shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorneys-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, are not assuming, nor is the Company assuming, any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

This Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file Forms 4, and 5 with respect to the undersigned's holdings of and transactions in securities issued by the Company, unless earlier revoked by the undersigned in a signed writing delivered to the foregoing attorneys-in-fact.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 24th day of May , 2002.

Signature: /s/Arthur Murphy

Print Name:Arthur Murphy