



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

DIVISION OF
CORPORATION FINANCE

Mailstop 4720

February 21, 2017

Richard H. Moore
Chief Executive Officer
First Bancorp
300 SW Broad St.
Southern Pines, NC 28387

**Re: First Bancorp
Registration Statement on Form S-3
Filed February 14, 2017
File No. 333-216051**

Dear Mr. Moore:

This is to advise you that we have not reviewed and will not review your registration statement.

Please refer to Rules 460 and 461 regarding requests for acceleration. We remind you that the company and its management are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of their disclosures, notwithstanding any review, comments, action or absence of action by the staff.

You may contact Jessica Livingston, Staff Attorney, at 202-551-3448 with any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Era Anagnosti

Era Anagnosti
Legal Branch Chief
Office of Financial Services

cc: B.T. Atkinson, Esq. (Via E-mail)