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PROVIDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES INC

Form 4 March 06, 2006

FORM 4

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

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Check this box

if no longer

subject to

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

SECURITIES

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading **CONNOR GEOFFREY M** Issuer Symbol PROVIDENT FINANCIAL (Check all applicable) SERVICES INC [PFS] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction _X__ Director 10% Owner Other (specify Officer (give title (Month/Day/Year) below) 830 BERGEN AVENUE 03/03/2006 (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306 Person

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned							
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 ransaction(A) or Disposed of (D) ode (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
			Code V	Amount	or (D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock	03/03/2006		S	700	D	\$ 18.55	84,983	D	
Common Stock	03/03/2006		S	100	D	\$ 18.57	84,883	D	
Common Stock	03/03/2006		S	1,500	D	\$ 18.58	83,383	D	
Common Stock	03/03/2006		S	1,000	D	\$ 18.59	82,383	D	
Common Stock	03/03/2006		S	1,000	D	\$ 18.6	81,383	D	

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Common Stock	03/03/2006	S	700	D	\$ 18.61	80,683	D	
Common Stock						7,500	I	By IRA
Common Stock						2,000	I	Cust. for Son 1
Common Stock						3,000	I	Cust. for Son 2

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

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(9-02)

8. P Der Sec (Ins

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

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exercis	sable and	7. Title and A	Amount of
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	TransactionNumber Expiration Date		e	Underlying Securities		
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/Y	ear)	(Instr. 3 and	4)
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8) Derivative	e			
	Derivative				Securities				
	Security				Acquired				
					(A) or				
					Disposed				
					of (D)				
					(Instr. 3,				
					4, and 5)				
				Code '	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options	\$ 18.55					02/22/2007	02/22/2016	Common Stock	2,000 (1)
Stock Options	\$ 18.57					07/17/2004	07/17/2013	Common Stock	160,000 (2)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships							
• 0	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other				
CONNOR GEOFFREY M								
830 BERGEN AVENUE	X							
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306								

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Signatures

/s/ John F. Kuntz, pursuant to power of attorney

03/06/2006

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Stock options vest at a rate of 20% per year over a period ending on February 22, 2011.
- (2) Stock options vest at a rate of 20% per year over a period ending on July 17, 2008.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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