

PROVIDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES INC  
 Form 4  
 August 23, 2006

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 OF SECURITIES**

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**BLUM DONALD W**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**PROVIDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES INC [PFS]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**830 BERGEN AVENUE**  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**08/21/2006**

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
**EVP and Chief Lending Officer**

**JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306**  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**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 (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D) Code V Amount Price			
Common Stock	08/21/2006		F	1,004 D \$ 18.34	22,286	D	
Common Stock					846 <sup>(1)</sup>	I	By ESIP
Common Stock					3,882	I	By ESOP

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

number.

**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 of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price or Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
Stock Options	\$ 18.48					03/23/2007 03/23/2016	Common Stock	10,000 (2)
Stock Options	\$ 18.57					07/17/2004 07/17/2013	Common Stock	80,000 (3)

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BLUM DONALD W 830 BERGEN AVENUE JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306			EVP and Chief Lending Officer	

## Signatures

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

08/22/2006

\_\_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) Reflects transaction not required to be reported pursuant to Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

(2) Stock options vest at a rate of 20% per year over a period ending on March 23, 2011.

(3) 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.

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