

PROVIDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES INC  
 Form 4  
 August 22, 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 \*  
 CONNOR GEOFFREY M

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)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

830 BERGEN AVENUE

08/21/2006

(Street)

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

JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306

(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 (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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V Amount (A) or (D) Price   |   |  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 05/09/2006                           |  | G                              | V 1,000 D \$ 0  | 79,683  | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 08/21/2006                           |  | F                              | 5,000 D \$ 18.34  | 74,683  | 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                                       |

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

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SEC 1474  
(9-02)

**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. P             |                        |       |                            |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|------------------|------------------------|-------|----------------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  | 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 <sup>(1)</sup>   |       |                            |
| Stock Options                              | \$ 18.57   |                                      |  |                                |   | 07/17/2004   | 07/17/2013  | Common Stock     | 160,000 <sup>(2)</sup> |       |                            |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                  | Relationships |           |         |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| CONNOR GEOFFREY M<br>830 BERGEN AVENUE<br>JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306 |               | X         |         |       |

## 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) 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.

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