

COMEY J MARTIN
Form 4
February 24, 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 *
COMEY J MARTIN

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)
02/22/2006

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

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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | | | Code | V Amount (A) or (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 02/06/2006 | | G | 6,500 D \$ 0 | 85,683 | D | |
| Common Stock | 02/06/2006 | | G | 1,200 A \$ 0 | 3,000 | I | By spouse |
| Common Stock | 02/13/2006 | | G | 1,000 D \$ 0 | 84,683 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 8,600 | I | By VFDP (1) |

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

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(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 (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) | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|-----------------|---|----------------------------|
| | | | | | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Stock Options | \$ 18.55 | 02/22/2006 | | A | 2,000 | 02/22/2007 | 02/22/2016 | Common Stock | 2,000 ⁽²⁾ |
| Stock Options | \$ 18.57 | | | | | 07/17/2004 | 07/17/2013 | Common Stock | 160,000 ⁽³⁾ |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| COMEY J MARTIN 830 BERGEN AVENUE JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306 | | X | | |

Signatures

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

02/23/2006

__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) Shares held in the Voluntary Fee Deferral Plan for the Board of Directors.

(2) Stock options vest at a rate of 20% per year over a period ending on February 22, 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.

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.