

NEW CENTURY FINANCIAL CORP
 Form 4
 December 21, 2006

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
MORRICE BRAD A

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
NEW CENTURY FINANCIAL CORP [NEW]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 18400 VON KARMAN, SUITE 1000
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 12/19/2006

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
 Vice Chairman, CEO and Pres.

IRVINE,, CA 92612

(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 Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V Amount (A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock	12/19/2006		M	11,250 A \$ 6.65	1,448,828	D	
Common Stock	12/19/2006		M	5,625 A \$ 10.47	1,454,453	D	
Common Stock					52,917 ⁽¹⁾	I	By trust
Common Stock					15,000	I	By daughter ⁽²⁾

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- (2) These shares are owned by the Samantha H. Morrice Trust, the sole beneficiary of which is the reporting person's daughter.

This stock option grant vested 20% on September 4, 2002, the first anniversary of the grant date, with an additional 5% vesting on the last day of each succeeding calendar quarter thereafter. The final 5% increment vested on the fifth anniversary of the grant date and the option is, therefore, currently exercisable.

- (4) This column is not applicable.

This stock option grant vested 20% on February 27, 2003, the first anniversary of the grant date, with an additional 5% vesting on the last

- (5) day of each succeeding calendar quarter thereafter. The final 5% increment will vest on the fifth anniversary of the grant date. The portion of this stock option grant exercised by the reporting person on December 19, 2006 vested on September 30, 2006.

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.