

NOVIELLI JACK
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 *
NOVIELLI JACK

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)
SVP and CIO

JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306

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

(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 | 08/21/2006 | | F | 335 D \$ 18.34 | 5,696 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 401 | I | By Wife as Custodian for Son 1 |
| Common Stock | | | | | 602 | I | By Wife as Custodian for Son 2 |
| Common Stock | | | | | 7,749 ⁽¹⁾ | I | By ESIP |
| | | | | | 2,896 | I | By ESOP |

Common
Stock

Common
Stock

130

I

As
Custodian
for Son 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 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 Derivative Security (Instr. 3) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Stock Options | \$ 18.55 | | | | | 02/22/2007 07/22/2016 | Common Stock | 3,000 (2) |
| Stock Options | \$ 18.57 | | | | | 07/17/2004 07/17/2013 | Common Stock | 40,000 (3) |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| NOVIELLI JACK 830 BERGEN AVENUE JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306 | | | SVP and CIO | |

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 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.

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