

PROVIDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES INC

Form 4

August 23, 2006

FORM 4**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Expires: January 31, 2005

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *

NIRO LINDA A

(Last) (First) (Middle)

830 BERGEN AVENUE

(Street)

JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

PROVIDENT FINANCIAL
SERVICES INC [PFS]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

08/21/2006

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director

____ 10% Owner

____X____ Officer (give title below)

____ Other (specify below)

SVP and CFO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)

____X____ 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)
Common Stock	08/21/2006		F	2,676 D	\$ 18.34	38,518 D	
Common Stock					7,058 ⁽¹⁾	I	By ESIP
Common Stock					3,651	I	By ESOP
Common Stock					57	I	By DRIP

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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. Pri Deriv Secur (Instr
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options	\$ 18.57					07/17/2004	07/17/2013	Common Stock	80,000 (2)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
NIRO LINDA A 830 BERGEN AVENUE JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306	SVP and CFO

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 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.