

PROVIDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES INC

Form 4

February 24, 2006

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

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
LYONS THOMAS M

(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)
02/22/2006

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 ____ Other (specify
below) below)
FVP & Chief Accounting Officer

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V Amount (A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock					3,182	I	By ESIP ⁽¹⁾
Common Stock					2,200	I	By IRA
Common Stock					6,279	D	
Common Stock					8,469	I	By ESOP ⁽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)			
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options	\$ 18.55	02/22/2006		A		10,000		02/22/2007	02/22/2016	Common Stock	10,000 (2)
Stock Options	\$ 18.03							07/21/2006	07/21/2015	Common Stock	10,000 (3)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
LYONS THOMAS M 830 BERGEN AVENUE JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306	FVP & Chief Accounting Officer

Signatures

/s/ Thomas M.
Lyons

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) 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 21, 2010.

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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