

PROVIDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES INC
 Form 4
 January 31, 2007

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 *
WARD KEVIN J

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)
01/29/2007

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 Vice Chairman

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)
Common Stock	01/29/2007		A	(A) or (D) 2,500 <u>(1)</u>	\$ 0 76,692	D	
Common Stock					3,800	I	By Wife
Common Stock					34,195 <u>(2)</u>	I	By ESIP
Common Stock					2,546 <u>(2)</u>	I	By SERP
Common Stock					4,075	I	By ESOP

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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	\$ 17.94	01/29/2007		A	5,000 (3)	01/29/2008	01/29/2017	Common Stock	5,000 (3)
Stock Options	\$ 18.57					07/17/2004	07/17/2013	Common Stock	330,000 (4)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
WARD KEVIN J 830 BERGEN AVENUE JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306			Vice Chairman	

Signatures

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

01/31/2007

**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 of restricted stock vest at a rate of 20% per year over a period ending January 29, 2012.

(2) Reflects transaction not required to be reported pursuant to Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended..

(3) Stock options vest at a rate of 20% per year over a period ending January 29, 2012.

(4) 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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