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PROVIDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES INC

Form 4

January 31, 2008

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

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(b).

(Last)

(Instr. 3)

Common

Stock

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

Giovinazzi Brian

(First) (Middle)

830 BERGEN AVENUE

(Street)

JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

PROVIDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES INC [PFS]

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

01/29/2008

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

4. Securities

(City) (State) (Zip) 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security

(Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

Code (Instr. 8)

3.

TransactionAcquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

Owned Following Reported (A) Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Issuer

below)

Person

5. Amount of

Securities

Beneficially

Director

Applicable Line)

X_ Officer (give title

Code V Amount (D) Price A

01/29/2008 Stock Common

1,330 A \$0 $29,825 \stackrel{(2)}{=}$ (1)

 $2,645 \frac{(2)}{}$

I

D

By IRA

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

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Number:

Expires:

response...

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

EVP of The Provident Bank

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

below)

Form: Direct

Indirect (I)

(Instr. 4)

(D) or

10% Owner Other (specify

6. Ownership 7. Nature of

Indirect

Beneficial

Ownership

(Instr. 4)

Estimated average

burden hours per

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number on 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 | \$ 12.54 | 01/29/2008 | | A | 5,370 (3) | 01/29/2009 | 01/29/2018 | Common Stock | 5,370 (3) |

 Γ

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Giovinazzi Brian

830 BERGEN AVENUE EVP of The Provident Bank

JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306

Signatures

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

attorney 01/31/2008

**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 on January 29, 2013.
- (2) Reflects transactions 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 on January 29, 2013.

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.

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