

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL	
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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Bentley Ronald M</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) 52 SOUTH BROAD STREET (Street) NORWICH NY 13815 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>NBT BANCORP INC [NBTB]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>President of Retail Banking</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/20/2006	
		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			
NBT Bancorp Inc. Common Stock	01/20/2006		A		550	A	\$0 ⁽¹⁾	550	D	
NBT Bancorp Inc. Common Stock								1,102.575	I	401k
NBT Bancorp Inc. Common Stock								187.284	I	NBT Bancorp ESOP

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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						Title
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$22.352	01/20/2006		A		8,000		01/01/2007 ⁽²⁾	01/01/2016	NBT Bancorp Inc. Common Stock	8,000	\$0	8,000	D	
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$14.3492							01/28/2003 ⁽²⁾	01/28/2012	NBT Bancorp Inc. Common Stock	1,960		1,960	D	
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$17.538							01/01/2004 ⁽²⁾	01/01/2013	NBT Bancorp Inc. Common Stock	6,225		6,225	D	
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$22.1715							01/01/2005 ⁽²⁾	01/01/2014	NBT Bancorp Inc. Common Stock	5,557		5,557	D	
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$23.2708							01/20/2006 ⁽²⁾	01/20/2015	NBT Bancorp Inc. Common Stock	6,788		6,788	D	

Explanation of Responses:

- Acquired pursuant to the formula provisions of the NBT Bancorp Inc. Performance Share Plan pursuant to which each member of a select group of Management is entitled to receive an award based on Company performance goals in the form of restricted shares of the Company's common stock that vests four years following the end of a performance period.
- Pursuant to NBT Bancorp Inc. 1993 Stock Option Plan grant vests 40% for first year, 20% annually for following years.

By: Michael J. Chewens,

01/24/2006

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

* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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 Number.