

VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP

Form 3

March 31, 2006

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *

^ NOONAN JOHN H

(Last) (First) (Middle)

2. Date of Event Requiring Statement

(Month/Day/Year)

03/24/2006

3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP [VLY]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

(Check all applicable)

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

FIRST SENIOR VICE
 PRESIDENT

6. Individual or Joint/Group

Filing(Check Applicable Line)
☒ Form filed by One Reporting Person

____ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

1455 VALLEY ROAD

(Street)

WAYNE,^ NJ^ 07470

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)

2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)

3. Ownership Form:

Direct (D)
 or Indirect (I)
 (Instr. 5)

4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)

Common Stock

1,020

D ^

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)

Date Exercisable Expiration Date

3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

Title Amount or Number of

4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security

5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect

6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)

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				Shares		(I) (Instr. 5)	
Stock Option	11/14/2006	11/14/2015	Common Stock	2,000	\$ 24.68	D	Â
Stock Option	11/16/2005	11/16/2014	Common Stock	1,050	\$ 26.64	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
NOONAN JOHN H 1455 VALLEY ROAD WAYNE, NJ 07470	Â	Â	Â FIRST SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT	Â

Signatures

JOHN H.
NOONAN 03/29/2006

**Signature of
Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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.

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