

DIFRANCESCO DONALD T  
 Form 4  
 October 22, 2004

**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 \*  
 DIFRANCESCO DONALD T

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 COMMERCE BANCORP INC /NJ/  
 [CBH]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 DEFRANCESCO BATEMAN  
 COLEY YOSPIN KUNZMAN, 15  
 MOUNTAIN BLVD

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
 (Month/Day/Year)  
 10/20/2004

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

(Street)  
 WARREN, NJ 07059

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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Price   |  |   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 3,101   | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 550   | I  | Wife  |
| Common Stock                    | 10/20/2004                           |  | J(1)                           | 8   | A \$ 56.92  | I  | Wife Drip   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 148   | I  | Wife ESOP Allocation                                  |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   | 354   | I  | Wife 401K   |

Common  
Stock

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

**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 control number.**

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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) | 8. Price or Value of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| Right to Buy <sup>(2)</sup>                | \$ 40.12   |                                      |  |                                |   | 02/04/2003 02/04/2012                                    | Common Stock 5,000  |   |
| Right to Buy <sup>(2)</sup>                | \$ 42.8  |                                      |  |                                |   | <sup>(3)</sup> 02/18/2013                                | Common Stock 5,000  |   |
| Right to Buy <sup>(2)</sup>                | \$ 58.9  |                                      |  |                                |   | <sup>(3)</sup> 02/03/2014                                | Common Stock 5,000  |   |

## Reporting Owners

### Reporting Owner Name / Address

### Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

DIFRANCESCO DONALD T  
DEFRANCESCO BATEMAN COLEY YOSPIN KUNZMAN  
15 MOUNTAIN BLVD  
WARREN, NJ 07059

X

## Signatures

Donald T.  
DiFrancesco 10/22/2004

<sup>(1)</sup>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) J(1) Purchase under DRIP

(2) Granted under the Company's 1997 Employee Stock Option Plans, which are 16b-3 plans.

(3) The stock options are exercisable in 25% increments on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th anniversaries of the grant date.

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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