

BEST ROBERT O
Form 4
January 03, 2006

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31, 2005
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *
BEST ROBERT O

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
UNUMPROVIDENT CORP [UNM]

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)
1 FOUNTAIN SQUARE
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
12/30/2005

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

CHATTANOOGA, TN 374021307
(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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 (D) Price			
Common Stock	12/30/2005		M ⁽¹⁾	29,200 A \$ 21.06	119,749	D	
Common Stock	12/30/2005		S ⁽¹⁾	29,200 D \$ 22.76	90,549 ⁽²⁾	D	
Common Stock					3,704	I	By 401(k) Plan

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

SEC 1474 (9-02)

number.

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
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 21.06	12/30/2005		M ⁽¹⁾	29,200	01/03/1997	01/03/2006	Common Stock	29,200

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

BEST ROBERT O
1 FOUNTAIN SQUARE
CHATTANOOGA, TN 374021307

Executive Vice President

Signatures

/s/ Best, Robert
O. 01/03/2006

**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) The transactions reported in this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person.
- (2) Includes 38,112 shares of restricted stock; 4,623 shares in the Company's Employee Stock Purchase Plan; 193 shares in the Dividend Reinvestment Plan; and 47,621 shares owned outside of any plan.

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.