

MERCANTILE BANKSHARES CORP  
 Form 4  
 March 31, 2006

**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 \*  
**KELLY EDWARD J III**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**MERCANTILE BANKSHARES CORP [(MRBK)]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**2 HOPKINS PLAZA**  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**03/29/2006**

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
**Chairman, President and CEO**

**BALTIMORE, MD 21201**  
 (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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	03/29/2006			A <sup>(1)</sup>	104,630 <sup>(2)</sup>	A	\$ 0 <sup>(3)</sup>
					240,764	D	

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

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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	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	\$ 38.23	03/29/2006		M	120,000	(4)	(4)	Common Stock	120,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
KELLY EDWARD J III 2 HOPKINS PLAZA BALTIMORE, MD 21201	X		Chairman, President and CEO	

## Signatures

Dennis W. Kreiner p/a for Edward J. Kelly, III  
 \*\*Signature of Reporting Person  
 03/31/2006  
 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) These restricted shares were granted under the 1999 Mercantile Bankshares Corporation Omnibus Stock Plan and will vest pro rata over 4 years.
- (2) Plus an indeterminable number of additional shares which may be issued on the vesting of the above shares of restricted stock, as if cash dividends had been paid on such stock and reinvested under the Issuer's Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan.
- (3) Not Applicable
- (4) These options were granted under the 1999 Mercantile Bankshares Corporation Omnibus Stock Plan and become exercisable pro-rata over 3 years beginning March 29, 2007. The options expire on March 28, 2016.

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.