NEW CENTURY FINANCIAL CORP Form SC 13G February 03, 2003

January 28, 2003

Securities and Exchange Commission 450 Fifth Street NW Washington, DC 20549

RE: Schedule 13G
New Century Financial Corporation
As of December 31, 2002

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Section 13(d)(5) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, attached please find a copy of a Schedule 13G for the above named company showing beneficial ownership of less than 5% as of December 31, 2002 filed on behalf of Awad Asset Management, Inc.

Very truly yours,

Kenneth K. Koster
Chief Compliance Officer

KKK:jmw Enclosures

cc: Office of the Corporate Secretary New Century Financial Corporation 18400 Von Karman, Suite 1000 Irving, CA 92612

> Securities Division NASD Financial Center 33 Whitehall Street New York, NY 10004

Washington, D.C. 20549

Schedule 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.)*

New Century Financial Corporation (Name of Issuer)

Common Stock \$0.01 value per share
 (Title of Class of Securities)

64352D101 (CUSIP Number)

Check the following box if a fee is being paid with this statement _____. (A fee is not required only if the filing person: (1) has a previous statement on file reporting beneficial ownership of more than five percent of the class of securities described in Item 1; and (2) has filed no amendment subsequent thereto reporting beneficial ownership of five percent or less of such class.) (See Rule 13d-7.)

*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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CUSIP NO. 64352D101 13G

NAME OF REPORTING PERSON

S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

Awad Asset Management, Inc.

58-2372400

- 2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (A)____ (B)____
- 3 SEC USE ONLY
- 4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

State of New York

NUMBER OF 5 SOLE VOTING POWER SHARES 205,479
BENEFICIALLY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER

OWNED

AS OF

DECEMBER 31, 2002 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

BY EACH 205,479

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER REPORTING

PERSON WITH

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

205,479

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*

- - -

11 PERCENT OF CLASS RPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

0.82%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

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*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

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Item 1(a) Name of Issuer:

New Century Financial Corporation

Item 1(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executing Offices:

18400 Von Karman, Suite 1000 Irvine, CA 92612

Item 2(a) Name of Person Filing:

Awad Asset Management, Inc.

Item 2(b) Address of Principal Business Office:

250 Park Avenue, 2nd Floor New York, NY 10177

Item 2(c) Citizenship:

New York

Item 2(d) Title of Class of Securities:

Common Stock - No par value per share

Item 2(e) CUSIP Number:

64352D101

Item 3 Type of Reporting Person:

(e) Investment Adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisors Act of 1940

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Item 4 Ownership as of December 31, 2002:

(a) Amount Beneficially Owned:

205,479 shares of common stock beneficially owned including:

No. of Shares

Awad Asset

Management, Inc.

205,479

(b) Percent of Class:

0.82%

(c) Deemed Voting Power and Disposition Power:

(i) (ii) (iii)

Deemed Deemed

Deemed	Deemed	to have	to have
to have	to have	Sole Power	Shared Power
Sole Power	Shared Power	to Dispose	to Dispose
to Vote or	to Vote or	or to	or to
to Direct	to Direct	Direct the	Direct the
to Vote	to Vote	Disposition	Disposition

Awad Asset 205,479 ---- 205,479 ----

Management, Inc.

Item 5 Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class:

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following.

(X)

Item 6 Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person:

N/A

Item 7 Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company:

N/A

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- Item 8 Identification and Classification of Members of the Group: N/A
- Item 9 Notice of Dissolution of Group: N/A
- Item 10 Certification:

By signing below I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired for purpose of and do not have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purposes or effect.

Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: January 28, 2003 AWAD ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC.

Kenneth K. Koster Chief Compliance Officer

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