

PATTERSON DAVID CHARLES
 Form 4
 January 20, 2006

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 PATTERSON DAVID CHARLES

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 COMMUNITY BANK SYSTEM
 INC [CBU]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 256 POTTER ROAD
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 01/18/2006

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

CANTON, NY 13617
 (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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 01/19/2006 | | M | 894 ⁽¹⁾ A \$ 0 | 20,930 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 3,380.692 ⁽²⁾ | I | By Trustee, W & P P.S. Plan |

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

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SEC 1474
 (9-02)

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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) | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Underlying (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|----------|--|-----------------|--|
| | | | | | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | |
| Stock Option | \$ 23.74 | 01/18/2006 | | V | | | | | Common Stock |
| Phantom Stock (Stock Balance Plan) | \$ 0 | 01/18/2006 | | A | 3,298 | | | | Common Stock |
| Deferred Stock (Deferred Comp.) | \$ 0 | 01/18/2006 | | A | 1,084.37 | | (3) | (3) | Common Stock |
| Deferred Stock (Deferred Comp.) | \$ 0 | 01/18/2006 | | A | 397.671 | | (4) | (4) | Common Stock |
| Deferred Stock (Deferred Comp.) | \$ 0 | 01/19/2006 | | A | 141.3278 | | (4) | (4) | Common Stock |
| Deferred Stock (Deferred Comp.) | \$ 0 | 01/19/2006 | | M | | 894.4547 | (4) | (4) | Common Stock |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| PATTERSON DAVID CHARLES 256 POTTER ROAD CANTON, NY 13617 | | X | | |

Signatures

Donna J. Drengel, as attorney-in-fact, pursuant to a power of attorney 01/20/2006

__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) Upon the exercise of the deferred compensation shares, the reporting person received cash for .4547 shares at \$22.55 per share.
- (2) Includes 27.496 shares acquired on January 10, 2006 under the Community Bank System, Inc. Dividend Reinvestment Plan.
- (3) Phantom Stock (Stock Balance Plan) may be exercised upon the later of the reporting person's attainment of age 55 or termination of service on Community Bank System, Inc.'s Board of Directors.
- (4) Awards relating to the Deferred Stock units (Deferred Comp. Plan) may be exercised upon the reporting person's attainment of age 64.

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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