

DEMPSEY WILLIAM M  
Form 4  
January 20, 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 \*  
DEMPSEY WILLIAM M

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)  
  
3003 GULFSHORE BLVD.,  
NORTH, APT. #202  
  
(Street)

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

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

NAPLES, FL 34103  
  
(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) Price			
Common Stock	01/19/2006		M	336 A \$ 0	3,661.117 <sup>(1)</sup>	D	

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.**

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 (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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount of Underlying Security	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount
Stock Option	\$ 23.74	01/18/2006		A	3,298	01/18/2006	01/18/2016	Common Stock	3
Phantom Stock (Stock Balance Plan)	\$ 0	01/18/2006		A	1,137.2	(2)	(2)	Common Stock	1,
Deferred Stock (Deferred Comp.)	\$ 0	01/18/2006		A	785.9691	(3)	(3)	Common Stock	785
Deferred Stock (Deferred Comp.)	\$ 0	01/19/2006		A	36.2903	(3)	(3)	Common Stock	36
Deferred Stock (Deferred Comp.)	\$ 0	01/19/2006		M	336	(3)	(3)	Common Stock	3

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
DEMPSEY WILLIAM M 3003 GULFSHORE BLVD., NORTH APT. #202 NAPLES, FL 34103	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)

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Includes 25.139, 22.528, 27.805 and 27.043 shares acquired on April 11, 2005, July 11, 2005, October 11, 2005, and January 10, 2006, respectively, under the Community Bank System, Inc. Dividend Reinvestment Plan.

- (2) 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.
- (3) 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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