COMMUNITY BANK SYSTEM, INC.

Form 4

March 17, 2016

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

OMB APPROVAL

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Check this box

Form 5 obligations may continue.

See Instruction

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(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * STEELE SALLY A

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

Symbol

COMMUNITY BANK SYSTEM,

(Check all applicable)

INC. [CBU]

03/16/2016

(Last)

(First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)

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

(Zip)

C/O COMMUNITY BANK SYSTEM, INC., 5790

WIDEWATERS PARKWAY

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

DEWITT, NY 13214

(City) (State) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

(A)

Transaction(s)

(Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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. 5. Number Transaction of Code Derivative (Instr. 8) Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		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
Phantom Stock (Deferred Stock Units)	(1)	03/16/2016		A	877	<u>(1)</u>	<u>(1)</u>	Common Stock	877
Phantom Stock (Deferred Compensation)	(2)					(2)	(2)	Common Stock	25,399.00

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

STEELE SALLY A

C/O COMMUNITY BANK SYSTEM, INC.
5790 WIDEWATERS PARKWAY

DEWITT, NY 13214

Signatures

/s/ Danielle M. Cima, pursuant to a Confirming Statement executed by Sally A.

Steele

03/17/2016

**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).
- The reporting person has received deferred stock units under the Community Bank System, Inc. 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan. Each phantom stock unit which represents a deferred stock unit is the economic equivalent of one share of Community Bank System, Inc. common stock and will be settled in common stock at a predetermined date.
- Each unit of phantom stock is the economic equivalent of one share of Community Bank System, Inc. common stock. The units of phantom stock relating to the Deferred Compensation Plan will be settled in Community Bank System, Inc. common stock at future dates selected by the reporting person.
- (3) Includes 236.9371 units of phantom stock acquired on January 11, 2016 under the Deferred Compensation Plan's dividend reinvestment feature.

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.

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