

DONAHUE BRIAN D  
Form 4  
March 23, 2012

**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 \*  
DONAHUE BRIAN D

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)  
229 CAROLINA STREET  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
03/21/2012

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Chief Banking Officer

OLEAN, NY 14760  
(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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)				
				Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	03/21/2012		A		1,672	A	\$ 0	24,185		D	
Common Stock	03/21/2012		M		4,400	A	\$ 15.675	28,585		D	
Common Stock	03/21/2012		S		2,400	D	\$ 28.7921	26,185		D	
Common Stock								5,551.7503		I	By 401(k) Plan
								(1)			
								(2)			

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

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(9-02)

**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) (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)
Stock Option	\$ 15.675	03/21/2012		M	4,400	01/01/2004 01/01/2013	Common Stock 4,400
Stock Option	\$ 28.78	03/21/2012		A	7,602	<sup>(3)</sup> 03/21/2022	Common Stock 7,602

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
DONAHUE BRIAN D 229 CAROLINA STREET OLEAN, NY 14760			Chief Banking Officer	

## Signatures

/s/ Donna J. Drengel, as attorney-in-fact, pursuant to a power of attorney for Brian D. Donahue

03/23/2012

\_\_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) The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$28.78 to \$28.83, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide Community Bank System, Inc., any security holder of Community Bank System, Inc. or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the range set forth in this footnote.

(2) The number of shares reported herein is based on a current plan statement.

(3) The option vests ratably on March 21, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017.

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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