

DRESSEL MELANIE J  
 Form 4  
 April 21, 2005

**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 \*  
 DRESSEL MELANIE J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 COLUMBIA BANKING SYSTEM INC [COLB]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)  
 Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
 President and CEO

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 1301 A STREET, MS-3100, STE. 800  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 04/21/2005

TACOMA 98402-4200  
 (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		
				Code V	Amount		
Common Stock	04/20/2005		M	A	\$ 3,310	D	
Common Stock					5,495	I	401(k)
Common Stock					47,194	I	Family Trust LLC
Common Stock					2,408	I	North Mason Fiber
					10	I	

Common Stock						Shares owned by son.
Common Stock				10	I	Shares owned by son.

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)

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)	8. Amount or Number of Shares
NQSO (Right to Buy)	\$ 7.2	04/20/2005		M	3,310	04/23/2000 04/23/2005	Common Stock	3,310
ISO (Right to Buy)	\$ 11.77					01/20/2002 01/20/2007	Common Stock	8,488
NQSO (Right to Buy)	\$ 11.77					01/20/2002 01/20/2007	Common Stock	5,519
NQSO (Right to Buy)	\$ 10.82					12/03/2003 12/05/2008	Common Stock	12,128

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
DRESSEL MELANIE J 1301 A STREET, MS-3100, STE. 800	X		President and CEO	

TACOMA 98402-4200

## Signatures

/s/ Kristy W.

04/21/2005

House

\_\_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).

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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