

COMMUNITY BANK SYSTEM, INC.

Form 4

March 17, 2016

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 *
 Whipple John F.

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)

1692 GOODRICH AVENUE

(Street)

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

03/16/2016

☒ Director☐ 10% Owner

☐ Officer (give title
 below)

☐ Other (specify
 below)

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 (D) Price			

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

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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	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
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Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amo Num Shar
Stock Option	\$ 38.02	03/16/2016		A		4,246		03/16/2016	03/16/2026	Common Stock	
Phantom Stock (Deferred Compensation)	<u>(1)</u>							<u>(1)</u>	<u>(1)</u>	Common Stock	10,

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
Whipple John F. 1692 GOODRICH AVENUE OLEAN, NY 14760	X

Signatures

/s/ Danielle M. Cima, pursuant to a Confirming Statement executed by John F. Whipple, Jr.

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).

Each unit of phantom stock is the economic equivalent of one share of Community Bank System, Inc. common stock. The units of

(1) 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.

(2) Includes 87.3071, 79.5624, 83.4964 and 85.9334 units acquired on April 10, 2015, July 10, 2015, October 9, 2015, and January 11, 2016 respectively, pursuant to 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.

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