Whipple John F. Form 3 March 05, 2010

FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:

3235-0104

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Expires: January 31, 2005

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response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement COMMUNITY BANK SYSTEM INC [CBU] Whipple John F. (Month/Day/Year) 02/26/2010 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 1692 GOODRICH AVENUE (Check all applicable) (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) 10% Owner _X__ Director _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Officer Other Person (give title below) (specify below) OLEAN, NYÂ 14760 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 2. Amount of Securities 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) D Â Common Stock 69 Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of

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Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	•		Securities Un Derivative Se	B. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security		5. Ownership Form of	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
			(Instr. 4)		Price of	`	(Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of	Derivative	Security:	
					Security	Direct (D)	
						or Indirect	

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Shares (I) (Instr. 5)

Phantom Stock (Deferred Compensation)

(1)

 $\hat{A} \stackrel{(1)}{=} Common$

2,748.3602 \$\(\frac{(1)}{}\)

D Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Whipple John F. 1692 GOODRICH AVENUE Â X Â Â OLEAN, NYÂ 14760

Signatures

/s/ Donna J. Drengel, pursuant to a Confirming Statement executed by John F. Whipple, Jr.

03/05/2010

ir. wilippie, ji.

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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 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.

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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