

COLUMBIA BANKING SYSTEM INC  
Form 8-K  
July 26, 2012

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549  
FORM 8-K  
CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of  
The Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported):  
July 26, 2012

COLUMBIA BANKING SYSTEM, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Washington                   | 0-20288      |
| (State or other jurisdiction | (Commission  |
| of incorporation)            | File Number) |

91-1422237  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

1301 A Street  
Tacoma, WA  
(Address of principal executive  
offices)

98402  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (253) 305-1900  
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- .. Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - .. Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Items to be Included in this Report

Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On July 26, 2012, Columbia Banking System, Inc. issued a press release reporting its financial results for the quarter ended June 30, 2012. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference. This information is being furnished under Item 2.02 (Results of Operations and Financial Condition) of Form 8-K.

Item 8.01 Other Events

On July 26, 2012, Columbia Banking System, Inc. issued a press release announcing a regular quarterly cash dividend of \$0.09 per common share and a special, one-time cash dividend of \$0.21 per common share. The dividends will be paid on August 22, 2012 to shareholders of record at the close of business on August 8, 2012. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.2 and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) The following exhibits are being furnished herewith:

- 99.1 Press Release dated July 26, 2012 reporting the financial results of Columbia Banking System, Inc. for the quarter ended June 30, 2012.
  - 99.2 Press Release dated July 26, 2012 announcing a regular quarterly cash dividend and a special, one-time cash dividend.
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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

COLUMBIA BANKING SYSTEM, INC.

Date: July 26, 2012

/s/ MELANIE J. DRESSEL

Melanie J. Dressel

President and Chief Executive Officer

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EXHIBIT INDEX

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- 99.2 Press Release dated July 26, 2012 announcing a regular quarterly cash dividend and a special, one-time cash dividend.