

STEELE SALLY A  
Form 4  
August 29, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2015  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 \*  
STEELE SALLY A

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)  
772 STATE ROUTE 1001  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
08/27/2012

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

TUNKHANNOCK, PA 18657

(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)		
				Code	V	Amount				(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	08/27/2012		M			5,457	A	\$ 18.09	44,742	D	
Common Stock	08/27/2012		M			179	A	\$ 18.08	44,921	D	
Common Stock	08/27/2012		S			5,636	D	\$ 28.0391 (1)	39,285	D	
Common Stock	08/28/2012		M			4,643	A	\$ 18.08	43,928	D	
Common Stock	08/28/2012		S			4,643	D	\$ 28.0298	39,285	D	

(2)

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 (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
Stock Option	\$ 18.09	08/27/2012		M	5,457	01/16/2008 01/16/2018	Common Stock	5,457
Stock Option	\$ 18.08	08/27/2012		M	179	01/29/2009 01/29/2019	Common Stock	179
Stock Option	\$ 18.08	08/28/2012		M	4,643	01/29/2009 01/29/2019	Common Stock	4,643

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
STEELE SALLY A 772 STATE ROUTE 1001 TUNKHANNOCK, PA 18657		X		

## Signatures

/s/ Donna J. Drengel, as attorney-in-fact, pursuant to a power of attorney for Sally A. Steele

08/29/2012

\*\*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 \$28.00 to \$28.08, 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 price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$28.00 to \$28.05, 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.

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.