

DRESSEL MELANIE J
 Form 4
 January 04, 2006

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)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

 (Street)

 (City) (State) (Zip)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 01/03/2006
 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
 President and CEO
 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	(A) or (D)	Price		
Common Stock	01/03/2006		P		144	A	\$ 21.924	4,025 ⁽¹⁾	D
Common Stock	06/30/2005		P		181	A	\$ 22.158	3,881 ⁽¹⁾	D
Common Stock	12/31/2004		I	V	15	A	\$ 24.7	5,277	I
Common Stock								46,932	I
Common Stock								2,408	I
									401(k)
									Family Trust LLC
									North Mason Fiber

Common Stock	10	I	Shares owned by son.
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Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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(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. Pri Deriv Secur (Instr	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
NQSO (Right to Buy)	\$ 7.2					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

X

President and CEO

Signatures

/s/Cathleen Dent

01/04/2006

**Signature of
Reporting Person

Date

/s/ Kristy W.
House

01/04/2005

**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) This was an ESPP purchase.

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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