ACE BRIAN R Form 4 March 22, 2018

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading ACE BRIAN R Issuer Symbol COMMUNITY BANK SYSTEM, (Check all applicable) INC. [CBU] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) C/O COMMUNITY BANK 03/20/2018 SYSTEM, INC., 5790 WIDEWATERS PARKWAY

> (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

> > (Zip)

Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

DEWITT, NY 13214

(State)

(City)

3. 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned Indirect (I) Ownership Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

Common 53,272.2396 D Stock

Common 137 (1) Ι By Spouse Stock

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

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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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number on f 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)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Phantom Stock (Deferred Stock Units)	<u>(2)</u>	03/20/2018		A	611	(2)	(2)	Common Stock	611
Phantom Stock (Deferred Compensation)	(3)					(3)	(3)	Common Stock	17,738.2

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		

ACE BRIAN R C/O COMMUNITY BANK SYSTEM, INC. 5790 WIDEWATERS PARKWAY DEWITT, NY 13214



Signatures

/s/ Danielle M. Cima, pursuant to a Confirming Statement executed by Brian R. Ace

03/22/2018

**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) Includes three shares acquired pursuant to the Community Bank System, Inc. Dividend Reinvestment Plan.
- The reporting person has received deferred stock units under the Community Bank System, Inc. 2014 Long-Term Incentive Plan. Each phantom stock unit which represents a deferred stock unit is the economic equivalent of one share of Community Bank System, Inc. common stock and will be settled in common stock at a predetermined date.
- 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.
- (4) Includes 143.4281 units of phantom stock acquired on January 10, 2018 under the Deferred Compensation Plan's dividend reinvestment feature.

Reporting Owners 2

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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.