

CANTWELL PAUL M JR
 Form 4
 January 20, 2006

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 CANTWELL PAUL M JR

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)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 01/18/2006

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

37 CONSTABLE STREET

(Street)

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

MALONE, NY 12953

(City) (State) (Zip)

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)
				(A) or (D)			
			Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price
Common Stock	01/19/2006		M		694 ⁽¹⁾	A	\$ 0
Common Stock					101,420	D	
					10,200	I	By Spouse

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Underlying (Instr. 3 and 4)
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	
Stock Option	\$ 23.74	01/18/2006		A	V	(A) 3,298	(D)	01/18/2006 01/18/2016	Common Stock
Phantom Stock (Stock Balance Plan)	\$ 0	01/18/2006		A		760.54		(2) (2)	Common Stock
Deferred Stock (Deferred Comp.)	\$ 0	01/18/2006		A		1,333.32		(3) (3)	Common Stock
Deferred Stock (Deferred Comp.)	\$ 0	01/19/2006		A		55.7345		(3) (3)	Common Stock
Deferred Stock (Deferred Comp.)	\$ 0	01/19/2006		M		694.2894		(3) (3)	Common Stock

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
CANTWELL PAUL M JR 37 CONSTABLE STREET MALONE, NY 12953		X		

Signatures

Donna J. Drengel, as attorney-in-fact, pursuant to a power of attorney 01/18/2006

__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) Upon the exercise of the deferred compensation shares, the reporting person received cash for .2894 shares at \$22.55 per share.
- (2) Phantom Stock (Stock Balance Plan) may be exercised upon the later of the reporting person's attainment of age 55 or termination of service on Community Bank System, Inc.'s Board of Directors.
- (3) Awards relating to the Deferred Stock units (Deferred Comp. Plan) may be exercised upon the reporting person's attainment of age 64.

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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