

COMMUNITY BANK SYSTEM INC  
 Form 4  
 January 18, 2008

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2005  
 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 \*  
 PARENTE CHARLES E

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)  
 356 SEDGWICK COURT  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 01/01/2008

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

NAPLES, FL 34108  
 (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)
				(A) or (D)	Amount	Price			
Common Stock	01/01/2008		M	V	5,976	A	7,813	D	
Common Stock							293,000	I	By Benevento & Mayo Partners
Common Stock							3,000	I	By Spouse
Common Stock							16,000	I	By C.E. Parente Trust U/A

dated Sept.  
12, 1979

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

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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 Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title Underlying (Instr. 3)
					V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	
Deferred Stock (Deferred Compensation)	(2)	01/01/2008		A		1,940.2	(2)	(2)	Common Stock
Deferred Stock (Deferred Compensation)	(2)	01/01/2008		M		5,976.31	(2)	(2)	Common Stock
Stock Option	\$ 18.09	01/16/2008		A		5,457	01/16/2008	01/16/2018	Common Stock
Phantom Stock (Stock Balance Plan)	(3)	01/16/2008		A		520.29	(3)	(3)	Common Stock

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
PARENTE CHARLES E 356 SEDGWICK COURT NAPLES, FL 34108		X		

## Signatures

Donna J. Drengel, as attorney-in-fact, pursuant to a power of attorney for Charles E. Parente

01/18/2008

\_\_\_\_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) Each deferred stock unit entitles the reporting person to receive one share of Community Bank System, Inc. common stock. On January 1, 2008, the reporting person's deferred stock units were settled for an equal number of shares and cash for .3050 shares at \$19.87 per share.
- (2) Each deferred stock unit entitles the reporting person to receive one share of Community Bank System, Inc. common stock. Awards relating to the deferred stock units (Deferred Comp. Plan) may be settled upon the reporting person's attainment of age 55.
- (3) Each phantom stock unit is the economic equivalent of one share of Community Bank System, Inc. common stock. Phantom Stock (Stock Balance Plan) may be settled 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.

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.