

COMMUNITY BANK SYSTEM, INC.

Form 4

March 18, 2016

**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 \*  
ACE BRIAN R

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O COMMUNITY BANK SYSTEM, INC., 5790 WIDEWATERS PARKWAY

(Street)

DEWITT, NY 13214

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
COMMUNITY BANK SYSTEM, INC. [CBU]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
03/16/2016

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

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) Price			
Common Stock					46,458 <sup>(1)</sup>	D	
Common Stock					130 <sup>(2)</sup>	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)

**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)		
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Phantom Stock (Deferred Stock Units)	(3)	03/16/2016		A	877	(3)	(3)	Common Stock	877
Phantom Stock (Deferred Compensation)	(4)					(4)	(4)	Common Stock	22,745.6

## 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

X

## Signatures

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

03/18/2016

\_\_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 reporting person's direct holdings were reduced by 3,673.5875 shares to correct an administrative error in the number of shares beneficially owned.
- (2) Includes 4.161 shares acquired in April, July and October 2015 and January 2016 under 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.
- (3) 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

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selected by the reporting person.

- (5) Includes 215.4654 units of phantom stock acquired on January 11, 2016 under the Deferred Compensation Plan's dividend reinvestment feature.

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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