FOLSOM JOHN Form 4 March 10, 2009

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

2005

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

January 31, Expires:

> Estimated average burden hours per

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

response... 0.5

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 ** FOLSOM JOHN	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) 1301 A STREET, STE. 800, MS-3100	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/10/2009	X Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)			
(Street) TACOMA, WA 98402-4200	4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
(City) (State) (Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acc	quired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned			

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tabl	le I - Non-I	Derivative	Secu	rities Acqu	ired, Disposed of	, or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securi or(A) or Di (Instr. 3,	ispose 4 and (A) or	d of (D)	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)
Common Stock							20,288	D	
Common Stock	03/10/2009		P	2,050	A	\$ 5.7995	10,600	I	IRA
Common Stock							950	I	Spousal IRA

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

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8. Pri Deriv Secur (Instr

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. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	5. onNumber 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 II S (
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
NQSO (Right to Buy)	\$ 11.92					05/15/2004	05/15/2009	Common Stock	1,820	
NQSO (Right to Buy)	\$ 14.4					04/23/2006	04/23/2011	Common Stock	1,050	

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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
FOLSOM JOHN 1301 A STREET, STE. 800, MS-3100 TACOMA, WA 98402-4200	X					

Signatures

Cathleen Dent 03/10/2009

**Signature of 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).

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.

Reporting Owners 2