Roberts Kent Form 4 January 07, 2010

### FORM 4

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

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

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

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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 \* 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Roberts Kent Issuer Symbol COLUMBIA BANKING SYSTEM (Check all applicable) INC [COLB] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner Other (specify X\_ Officer (give title (Month/Day/Year) below) 1301 "A" STREET, MS 3100, STE 01/06/2010 **Executive Vice President** 800 (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) \_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting **TACOMA, WA 98402** (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

		Tubic 1 1 (on 2 cit) unit c Securities 12 quit cu, 2 is possed oi, of 2 cit cut in c								
1.Title of 2. Transaction D Security (Month/Day/Ye		2A. Deemed Execution Date, if	3.	4. Securities Acquired	5. Amount of Securities	6. Ownership Form: Direct				
(Instr. 3)	(Month/Day/Year)	any	Code	on(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	Beneficially	(D) or	Beneficial			
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)		Owned	Indirect (I)	Ownership			
					Following	(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)			
				(A)	Reported					
				or	Transaction(s)					
			Code V		(Instr. 3 and 4)					
Common Stock	01/06/2010		A	481 (1) A \$ 9.585	17,846	D				
Common Stock					3,866	I	401(k)			

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

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**OMB APPROVAL** 

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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	2.	3. Transaction Date		4.	5.	6. Date Exer		7. Title		8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	orNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amou	nt of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security	Secur
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securi	ties	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr.	3 and 4)		Own
	Security				Acquired						Follo
					(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration		or		
						Exercisable	Date	Title Number	Number		
						Excicisable			of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

## **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Roberts Kent 1301 "A" STREET, MS 3100, STE 800 TACOMA, WA 98402

**Executive Vice President** 

## **Signatures**

/s/ Cathleen L.
Dent

\*\*Signature of Date

\*\*Signature of
Reporting Person

# **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) ESPP Purchase

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.

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