COLUMBIA BANKING SYSTEM INC

Form 4

December 20, 2007

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB 3235-0287

OMB APPROVAL

Number:

Expires:

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0.5

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

Check this box

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 * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading WILL JAMES M Issuer Symbol COLUMBIA BANKING SYSTEM (Check all applicable) INC [COLB] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction _X__ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) 1301 A STREET, STE. 800, 12/19/2007 MS-3100 (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

Person

TACOMA, WA 98402-4200

(State)

(Zip)

(City)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 4. Securities 1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Indirect (I) Ownership (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Following Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Price Code V Amount (D)

Common 2,000 12/19/2007 \$0 A 21,767 D (1) Stock

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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| 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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) | Secu Acq (A) (Disp (D) | urities uired or posed of tr. 3, 4, | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amount Underlying Securitie (Instr. 3 and 4) | |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|-----------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| | | | | Code V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amour or Number of Shares |
| NQSO (Right to Buy) | \$ 7.2 | 04/15/2005 | | M | | 2,206 | 04/23/2000 | 04/23/2005 | Common Stock | 2,20 |
| NQSO(Right to Buy) | \$ 18.56 | | | | | | 04/22/2001 | 04/22/2006 | Common Stock | 2,10 |
| NQSO (Right to Buy) | \$ 9.9 | | | | | | 06/28/2003 | 06/28/2008 | Common Stock | 1,82 |
| NQSO (Right to Buy) | \$ 11.92 | | | | | | 05/15/2004 | 05/15/2009 | Common Stock | 1,82 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|--|--|--|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | |

WILL JAMES M 1301 A STREET, STE. 800, MS-3100 X TACOMA, WA 98402-4200

Signatures

Cathleen Dent 12/20/2007

**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) Restricted Stock Award

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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