NELSON MARK W Form 4 July 05, 2005

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Check this box

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

(Last)

(City)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * **NELSON MARK W**

(First)

(Street)

(State)

(Middle)

(Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

COLUMBIA BANKING SYSTEM

INC [COLB]

Director 10% Owner

(Check all applicable)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 06/30/2005

Other (specify X_ Officer (give title below) **Executive Vice President**

1301 A STREET, STE. 800, MS-3100

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

TACOMA, WA 98402-4200

(010)	(State)	Tab	le I - No	on-D	erivative	Secui	rities Acqu	ired, Disposed of	, or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if any	Code	Fransaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			d of (D)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially	6. Ownership Form: Direct	
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr.	8) V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	(D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	06/30/2005		P		136	A	\$ 22.158	1,447 <u>(1)</u>	D	
Common Stock	12/31/2004		I	V	56	A	\$ 24.7	56	I	401(k)

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

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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 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)	5. orNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	S .		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	An or Nu of
Non-Qualifi Stock Optio (Right to Bu	on \$ 10.68					10/23/2005	10/23/2010	Non-Qualified Stock Option	10

Reporting Owners

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

NELSON MARK W 1301 A STREET, STE. 800 MS-3100 TACOMA, WA 98402-4200

Executive Vice President

Signatures

Kristy W. House 01/04/2005

**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) This was an 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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