

COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS INC
 Form 4
 December 11, 2008

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 Smith Martin Dewayne

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS INC [CYH]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 4000 MERIDIAN BLVD
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 12/10/2008

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 Division Pres.; Division Ops

FRANKLIN, TN 37067
 (City) (State) (Zip)

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

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 | | | |
| | | | | Code | V | Amount | (D) | Price |
| Common Stock | 12/10/2008 | | A | 10,000 | A | \$ 0 | 22,834 | D |

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

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. 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 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 27.7 | | | | | 05/21/2003 | 05/21/2012 | Common Stock | 2,000 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 20.3 | | | | | 05/22/2004 | 05/22/2013 | Common Stock | 10,000 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 20.3 | | | | | 05/22/2004 | 05/22/2013 | Common Stock | 2,000 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 25.7 | | | | | 12/09/2004 | 12/09/2013 | Common Stock | 5,000 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 25.13 | | | | | 05/25/2005 | 05/25/2014 | Common Stock | 2,000 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 32.37 | | | | | 02/28/2006 | 02/28/2013 | Common Stock | 5,000 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 38.3 | | | | | 03/01/2007 | 03/01/2014 | Common Stock | 3,000 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 37.21 | | | | | 02/28/2008 | 02/28/2015 | Common Stock | 1,500 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 32.28 | | | | | 02/27/2009 | 02/27/2018 | Common Stock | 1,500 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------|------------|---|--------|---------------------------|------------|--------------|--------|
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 40.41 | | | | 07/25/2008 | 07/25/2015 | Common Stock | 8,000 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 15.11 | 12/10/2008 | A | 10,000 | 12/10/2009 ⁽¹⁾ | 12/10/2018 | Common Stock | 10,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Smith Martin Dewayne 4000 MERIDIAN BLVD FRANKLIN, TN 37067 | | | Division Pres.; Division Ops | |

Signatures

Rachel A. Seifert, Attorney in Fact for Martin D. Smtih 12/11/2008

__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) Vesting occurs in 1/3 increments on the first, second and third anniversary of the date of grant.

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.