

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL	
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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>PORTACCI MICHAEL T</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) 4000 MERIDIAN BOULEVARD  (Street) FRANKLIN TN 37067  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS INC [ CYH ]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) Division President, Group Ops
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/27/2009	
	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	

**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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	02/27/2009	02/27/2009	F		11,908	D	\$16.36	130,028	D	

**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. 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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					
Performance Based Restricted	\$0.00							(1)	(1)	Common Stock	40,000	40,000	D	
Performance Based Restricted Stock	\$0.00							(2)	(2)	Common Stock	15,000	15,000	D	
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$32.28							02/27/2009	02/26/2018	Common Stock	20,000	20,000	D	
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$40.41							07/25/2008	07/25/2015	Common Stock	100,000	100,000	D	
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$18.18							02/25/2010	02/25/2019	Common Stock	10,000	10,000	D	
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$20.3							05/22/2004	05/22/2013	Common Stock	200,000	200,000	D	
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$32.37							02/28/2006	02/28/2013	Common Stock	30,000	30,000	D	
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$38.3							03/01/2007	03/01/2014	Common Stock	20,000	20,000	D	
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$37.21							02/28/2008	02/28/2015	Common Stock	10,000	10,000	D	

**Explanation of Responses:**

- Each performance based restricted share represents a contingent right to receive one share of CYH common stock. There are two elements to the lapsing of the restriction; first, the Company must achieve specified targeted amount of earnings per share from continuing operations, or net revenue from continuing operations, and if the performance objective is met, the vesting restrictions will lapse in 1/3 increments on the first, second and third anniversary of the date of grant. If the objectives are not met, the shares will be forfeited.
- The restrictions on these shares will lapse on 7/25/09, provided that performance objectives for the period 7/1/08 to 6/30/09 are met.

**Remarks:**

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

\* 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.

**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 Number.**