

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

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

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

|   |           |              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|-----------|--------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*<br><u>Fordham Benjamin C</u> |           |              | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol<br><u>COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS INC</u><br><u>[CYH]</u> |  |  | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer<br>(Check all applicable)<br>Director 10% Owner<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)<br><u>EVP and General Counsel</u> |  |  |
| (Last)  | (First)   | (Middle)     | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br><u>06/01/2017</u>                              |  |  | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person<br>Form filed by More than One Reporting Person                                      |  |  |
| <u>4000 MERIDIAN BOULEVARD</u>  |           |              | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)   |  |  |  |  |  |
| (Street)  | (City)    | (State)      |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <u>FRANKLIN</u>   | <u>TN</u> | <u>37210</u> |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**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         |   |  |   |
| <u>Common Stock</u>             | <u>06/01/2017</u>                    |  | <u>A</u>                       |   | <u>20,000<sup>(1)</sup></u>                                       | <u>A</u>   | <u>\$0.00</u> | <u>86,125</u>   | <u>D</u>   |   |

**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   |   |  |  |   |  |
| <u>Performance Based Restricted</u>        | <u>\$0.00</u>  |                                      |  |                                |   |  |     | <u>03/01/2020<sup>(2)</sup></u>                          | <u>02/28/2027</u> | <u>Common Stock</u>   | <u>20,000</u>                              | <u>20,000</u>  | <u>D</u>  |  |

**Explanation of Responses:**

- The time-vesting restrictions on this award of restricted stock will lapse in 1/3 increments on the first, second and third anniversary of the date of grant.
- The vesting of 80% of these performance-based restricted shares is subject to the attainment of a pre-determined level of Cumulative Same-Store Adjusted EBITDA Growth between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2019 (the "Performance Period"). The vesting of the remaining 20% of these performance-based restricted shares is subject to the attainment of a pre-determined level of Cumulative Adjusted EPS for the Performance Period. The target number (100%) of the total performance-based restricted shares is reported in the table set forth above. Between 0% and 200% of the target number of performance-based restricted shares subject to the attainment of the Cumulative Same-Store Adjusted EBITDA Growth and Cumulative Adjusted EPS criteria, as applicable, will ultimately vest on the third anniversary of the date of grant, with the vesting percentage to be determined based upon achievement with respect to the applicable criteria during the Performance Period.

**Remarks:**

Christopher G. Cobb, Attorney  
in Fact for Benjamin C. Fordham 06/02/2017

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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.