FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

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* DOLE ROBERT J						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS INC [CYH]										5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)							
																X D	irecto	or		10% O\	wner		
(Last) (First) (Middle)						Cin j											fficer	r (give title		Other (s	specify		
` '	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,					3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)											,			,			
C/O ALSTON & BIRD					05/	05/06/2004																	
601 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW							4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)											6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable					
(Street)							(mona, zay, roa)										Line)						
WASHINGTON DC 20004															X F	orm 1	filed by One	Rep	orting Perso	on			
				_											Form filed by More than One Reporting Person								
(City)	City) (State) (Zip)																0.00.	•					
		Tab	le I - Noi	n-Deriv	/ative	e Se	curiti	es A	cqui	ired,	Disp	osed o	of, or	Ben	eficia	lly Ov	nec	L					
1 Title of	Security (Ins			2. Trans			A. Dee		_		Ť	4. Securi						ınt of	6. O	wnership	7. Nature		
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transa Date (Month/D						Execution Date,							Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4				curiti nefici	es	Forn	n: Direct	of Indirect Beneficial		
(montain)				(-u,		(Month/Day/Year									Owned		Following		nstr. 4)	Ownership (Instr. 4)		
									Code	v	Amount	t (A) or		Price	Tranca		tion(s)			(
Common Stock 05/06.							05/06/200		. 			4.04	1.7		φ ₂ Ε /	-	0			Б			
Common	Stock	6/2004	2004 05/06/200			4	S		4,841		D	\$25.0	09		U		D						
		Т	able II -													/ Own	ed						
				(e.g., p	outs,	calls	s, wa	rant	s, op	ption	s, co	onverti	ble s	cur	ities)								
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deeme Execution if any (Month/Da	Date,	4. Transa Code (8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		Expi	6. Date Exercisal Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year			Amour Securi Under Deriva	7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)		9. Number derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4)	Ownershi Form: Direct (D) or Indirec (I) (Instr. 4	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
				Ì							\top				mount	ınt							
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exer	e rcisable		piration ite	Title	N o	r lumber of Shares								
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$8.96								05/1	14/1998	05	/14/2007	Comm	on	8,000			8,000		D			
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$20.46								01/0	02/2004	01	/02/2013	Comm		5,000			5,000		D			
Stock Options (Right to	\$26.95								01/0	02/2005	01	/02/2014	Comm		5,000			5,000		D			

Explanation of Responses:

Rachel A. Seifert, Attorney in

05/06/2004

** Signature of Reporting Person

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

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.

^{*} 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).