

COLUMBIA BANKING SYSTEM INC  
Form 8-K  
August 03, 2009

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of**  
**the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported):**

**August 3, 2009**

**COLUMBIA BANKING SYSTEM, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Washington**

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

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**0-20288**  
(Commission File Number)

**91-1422237**  
IRS Employer Identification No.

**1301 A Street**

**Tacoma, WA 98402**

(Address of principal executive offices) (zip code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (253) 305-1900**

(Former Name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligations of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- .. Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- .. Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act of (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act of (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

**Item 8.01. Other Events.**

On August 3, 2009, Columbia Banking System, Inc. (the Company ) announced that it expects to offer and sell approximately \$80 million of common stock in an underwritten public offering. The offer and sale would be made pursuant to the Company's shelf registration statement on Form S-3, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 17, 2008. Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc. is serving as lead book-running manager of the offering, and D.A. Davidson & Co. is a co-manager. Columbia Banking System intends to grant the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to an additional 15% of the shares sold to cover over-allotments, if any.

A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Report, and is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits.

99.1 Press Release dated August 3, 2009

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: August 3, 2009

COLUMBIA BANKING SYSTEM, INC.

By: /s/ Melanie J. Dressel  
Melanie J. Dressel  
President and Chief Executive Officer