

Maher Christopher
 Form 4
 February 24, 2009

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 *
 Maher Christopher

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 DIME COMMUNITY
 BANCSHARES INC [DCOM]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 209 HAVEMEYER STREET
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 02/20/2009

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

BROOKLYN, NY 11211

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

(City) (State) (Zip)

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		
Common Stock	02/20/2009	02/20/2009	P	V	\$ 8.75	D	
Common Stock					2,795	I	401(k) Plan
Common Stock					1,224	I	Esop
Common Stock					10,100	I	Restricted Stock Award

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

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(9-02)

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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 13.74					05/01/2008 ⁽¹⁾ 05/01/2017	Common Stock	51,000
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 16.73					05/01/2012 ⁽²⁾ 07/31/2018	Common Stock	9,123

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Maher Christopher 209 HAVEMEYER STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11211			EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT	

Signatures

/s/ Christopher D. Maher
02/24/2009
**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).

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- (1) Options vest in equal 1/4th annual installments on May 1, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011.
- (2) Award vests in equal annual installments (adjusted for rounding) on May 1, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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