

FORM 5

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL	
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ANNUAL 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).
- Form 3 Holdings Reported.
- Form 4 Transactions Reported.

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* <u>PUCELLA MICHAEL</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>209 HAVEMEYER STREET</u> (Street) <u>BROOKLYN NY 11211</u> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>DIME COMMUNITY BANCSHARES INC [DCOM]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT</u>
	3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year) <u>12/31/2008</u>	
	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 at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	12/31/2008	12/31/2008	A	1,011	A	\$13.3	42,387	I	Bmp
Common Stock							30,599	D	
Common Stock							0	I	401(k) Plan
Common Stock							46,228	I	Esop
Common Stock							2,025	I	Other
Common Stock							9,643	I	Restricted Stock Awards

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)
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$6.45						12/26/1997	12/26/2006	Common Stock	0	0	D	
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$10.91						11/21/2002	11/21/2011	Common Stock	18,000	18,000	D	
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$16.36						11/21/2002	11/21/2011	Common Stock	0	0	D	
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$13.16						02/01/2004	02/01/2013	Common Stock	20,250	20,250	D	

Explanation of Responses:

/s/ MICHAEL PUCELLA 02/24/2009
 ** 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.