

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

August 9, 2021

Clint E. Stein Chief Executive Officer Columbia Banking System, Inc. 1301 A Street Tacoma, WA 98402-4200

> Re: Columbia Banking System, Inc. Registration Statement on Form S-4 Filed August 6, 2021 File No. 333-258551

Dear Mr. Stein:

This is to advise you that we have not reviewed and will not review your registration statement.

Please refer to Rules 460 and 461 regarding requests for acceleration. We remind you that the company and its management are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of their disclosures, notwithstanding any review, comments, action or absence of action by the staff.

Please contact Sonia Bednarowski at 202-551-3666 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Division of Corporation Finance Office of Finance