WALSH PETER

Form 4

November 01, 2011

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

OMB

3235-0287 Number:

OMB APPROVAL

January 31, Expires: 2005

10% Owner

0.5

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

(Middle)

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

(First)

(Street)

WALSH PETER

(Last)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

AMERISTAR CASINOS INC

[ASCA]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 10/28/2011

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

16633 VENTURA

BOULEVARD, SUITE 1050

4. If Amendment, Date Original

(Month/Day/Year)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Other (specify X_ Officer (give title below) SVP, GC, Chief Admin Officer

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

Director

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

ENCINO, CA 91436

Security

(Instr. 3)

(State) (Zip) (City) 1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed

3. 4. Securities (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Code

Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (I) (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Conversion

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed

(Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

5. Number of **TransactionDerivative**

6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date**

7. Title and Amount Underlying Securitie

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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security		any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	Securities (A) or Dis (D) (Instr. 3, 4	sposed of	(Month/Day/Year)		(Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amour or Number of Shar
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 21.3	10/28/2011		D <u>(1)</u>		42,944	(1)(2)	12/16/2011	Common Stock	42,94
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 22.87	10/28/2011		D(1)		40,718	(1)(4)	12/15/2012	Common Stock	40,71
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 31.675	10/28/2011		D <u>(1)</u>		44,792	(1)(5)	12/14/2013	Common Stock	44,79
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 21.3	10/28/2011		A <u>(1)</u>	42,944		(1)(2)	12/16/2014	Common Stock	42,94
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 22.87	10/28/2011		A(1)	40,718		(1)(4)	12/15/2015	Common Stock	40,71
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 31.675	10/28/2011		A(1)	44,792		(1)(5)	12/14/2016	Common Stock	44,79

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address		Relationships						
	g		10% Owner	Officer	Other			
WALSH PETER 16633 VENTURA BOULEVARD SUITE 1050 ENCINO, CA 91436				SVP, GC, Chief Admin Officer				
Signatures								
/s/ Peter C. Walsh	11/01/2011							
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date							

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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).
- The reported transactions involve the amendment of three outstanding options, each amendment resulting in the deemed cancellation of (1) the "old" option to the extent of 88% of the number of shares for which it was exercisable and the grant of a replacement option exercisable for the same number of shares.
- (2) The option being amended was originally granted on December 16, 2004, vested in installments, and fully vested prior to the date of the reported event.
- (3) Securities owned by the Walsh Family Trust dated 9-11-03, of which Mr. Walsh and his spouse are co-trustees.
- (4) The option being amended was originally granted on December 15, 2005, vested in installments, and fully vested prior to the date of the reported event.
- (5) The option being amended was originally granted on December 14, 2006, and vested or will vest in five equal, annual installments on each December 13 from 2007 through 2011.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.