STEINBAUER THOMAS M

Form 4

December 28, 2012

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Check this box

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Last)

(City)

1. Title of

Security

(Instr. 3)

Common

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * STEINBAUER THOMAS M

(First)

(State)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

AMERISTAR CASINOS INC

[ASCA]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction _X__ Director

10% Owner Other (specify

X_ Officer (give title below) Senior V.P. of Finance, CFO

3773 HOWARD HUGHES PKWY, SUITE 490S

> (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

> > Filed(Month/Day/Year)

(Month/Day/Year)

12/26/2012

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

Applicable Line)

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

Person

Issuer

LAS VEGAS, NV 89169

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

(Zip)

(Middle)

4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of Transaction(A) or Disposed of Code (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

1.572

(1)

F

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Securities Form: Direct Indirect Beneficially (D) or Beneficial Ownership Owned Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) Following (Instr. 4) Reported

(A) or

26.4

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

D

 $190,263 \frac{(2)}{2}$ D

12/26/2012 Stock

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

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	2.	3. Transaction Date		4.	5.	6. Date Exerc		7. Titl		8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Transact Code (Instr. 8)	orNumber of Derivativ Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	:		Amou Under Securi (Instr.	lying	Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships							
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other				
STEINBAUER THOMAS M 3773 HOWARD HUGHES PKWY SUITE 490S LAS VEGAS, NV 89169	X		Senior V.P. of Finance, CFO					

Signatures

/s/ Thomas M.
Steinbauer

**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).
- The Compensation Committee of the issuer accelerated the settlement of certain previously reported, fully-vested restricted stock units, which would have otherwise settled within 45 days after January 3, 2013, in order to permit the reporting person to recognize the taxable income in the current year. Restricted stock units entitling the reporting person to receive 4,494 shares of common stock were either settled in stock or withheld for payment of tax liability on the transaction date.
- Balance includes previously reported restricted stock units, each of which constitutes the right to receive one share of common stock in the future.

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.

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