NEILSEN RAY H

Form 4 May 07, 2009

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB 3235-0287

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Check this box

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

1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * NEILSEN RAY H

(First)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

AMERISTAR CASINOS INC

[ASCA]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 05/06/2009

Issuer

_X__ 10% Owner _X_ Director _ Other (specify

(Check all applicable)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

X_ Officer (give title below) Chairman of the Board

3773 HOWARD HUGHES PKWY, SUITE 490S

> (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

(Middle)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

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

LAS VEGAS, NV 89169

(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 on(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
			Code V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)			
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009		S	400	D	\$ 22.1	144,030	D		
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009		S	400	D	\$ 22.11	143,630	D		
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009		S	800	D	\$ 22.12	142,830	D		
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009		S	3,000	D	\$ 22.13	139,830	D		
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009		S	3,220	D	\$ 22.14	136,610	D		

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Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	6,880	D	\$ 22.15	129,730	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	1,300	D	\$ 22.16	128,430	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	4,500	D	\$ 22.17	123,930	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	200	D	\$ 22.18	123,730	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	580	D	\$ 22.19	123,150	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	300	D	\$ 22.2	122,850	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	400	D	\$ 22.21	122,450	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	400	D	\$ 22.22	122,050	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	100	D	\$ 22.23	121,950	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	120	D	\$ 22.24	121,830	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	2,600	D	\$ 22.25	119,230	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	400	D	\$ 22.26	118,830	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	1,100	D	\$ 22.27	117,730	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	1,800	D	\$ 22.28	115,930	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	1,100	D	\$ 22.29	114,830	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	800	D	\$ 22.3	114,030	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	400	D	\$ 22.31	113,630	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	2,050	D	\$ 22.34	111,580	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	5,850	D	\$ 22.35	105,730	D
Common Stock (1)	05/06/2009	S	1,300	D	\$ 22.36	104,430	D

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

> 9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans

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

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exerc	isable and	7. Titl	e and	8. Price of	9
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	orNumber	Expiration Da	nte	Amou	nt of	Derivative]
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security	5
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securi	ities	(Instr. 5)]
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr.	3 and 4)		(
	Security				Acquired						J
					(A) or						J
					Disposed						-
					of (D)						(
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration	m: 1	or		
						Exercisable Date	Title Number				
									of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address		Relationships	

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

NEILSEN RAY H 3773 HOWARD HUGHES PKWY SUITE 490S LAS VEGAS, NV 89169

X X Chairman of the Board

Signatures

/s/ Peter C. Walsh, Attorney-in-Fact 05/07/2009

**Signature of Reporting Person Da

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).
- (1) Balance includes restricted stock units, each of which represents a right to receive one share of common stock in the future.

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