

AMERISTAR CASINOS INC  
Form S-8 POS  
August 15, 2013

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 15, 2013

Registration No. 333-56612

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

**POST-EFFECTIVE AMENDMENT NO. 1**

**TO**

**FORM S-8**

**REGISTRATION STATEMENT**

*UNDER*

*THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933*

**AMERISTAR CASINOS, INC.**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

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Nevada  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

88-0304799  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

3773 Howard Hughes Parkway

Suite 490 South

Las Vegas, Nevada 89169  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

89169  
(Zip Code)

1999 Stock Incentive Plan and

Ameristar Casinos, Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan

(Full Title of the Plan)

John A. Godfrey

Executive Vice President and Secretary

Ameristar Casinos, Inc.

c/o Pinnacle Entertainment, Inc.

8918 Spanish Ridge Avenue

Las Vegas, Nevada 89148

(Name and Address of Agent for Service)

(702) 541-7777

(Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent for Service)

*Copies to:*

David M. Lynn, Esq.

Morrison & Foerster LLP

2000 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Suite 6000

Washington, DC 20006-1888

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer  (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company

**DEREGISTRATION OF SECURITIES**

This Post-Effective Amendment relates to the following Registration Statement on Form S-8, including all amendments thereto (the Registration Statement ) of Ameristar Casinos, Inc., a Nevada corporation ( Ameristar or the Registrant ):

Registration Statement No. 333-56612 pertaining to the registration of both (i) 2,000,000 shares of Ameristar common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, issuable under the Registrant s 1999 Stock Incentive Plan and (ii) \$10,000,000 in unsecured obligations of the Registrant, payable to employees of the Registrant in accordance with the terms of the Registrant s Ameristar Casinos, Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan.

On December 20, 2012, Pinnacle Entertainment, Inc. ( Pinnacle ), PNK Holdings, Inc., a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of Pinnacle ( HoldCo ), PNK Development 32, Inc., an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Pinnacle ( Merger Sub ), and Ameristar, entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (as amended by that certain First Amendment, entered into on February 1, 2013 (the First Amendment ) and that certain Second Amendment, entered into on March 14, 2013 (the Second Amendment , and as amended by the First Amendment and the Second Amendment, the Merger Agreement )), pursuant to which (i) Merger Sub would be merged with and into Ameristar, with Ameristar surviving as a wholly-owned, indirect subsidiary of Pinnacle, or (ii) alternately, at Pinnacle s election, under certain circumstances and under an alternative merger structure, (x) HoldCo would be merged with and into Ameristar with Ameristar as the surviving corporation (the Alternative Merger ), and (y) immediately thereafter, Ameristar would merge with and into Pinnacle with Pinnacle as the surviving corporation (the Post-Effective Merger and together with the Alternative Merger, the Merger ). On August 13, 2013, Pinnacle, HoldCo, and Ameristar completed the Alternative Merger, and immediately thereafter completed the Post-Effective Merger. As a result, Ameristar was merged with and into Pinnacle and ceased to exist as a separate entity.

As a result of the Merger, the Registrant has terminated offerings of securities pursuant to certain existing registration statements under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, including the Registration Statement. In accordance with an undertaking made by the Registrant to remove from registration, by means of a post-effective amendment, any securities registered under the Registration Statement that remain unsold at the termination of the offering, the Registrant hereby removes from registration all securities registered under the Registration Statement that remain unsold as of the effective time of the Merger.

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Post-Effective Amendment to the Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Las Vegas, State of Nevada, on this 13th day of August, 2013.

By: /s/ Carlos A. Ruisanchez  
Carlos A. Ruisanchez  
President and Chief Financial Officer

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Post-Effective Amendment to Form S-8 has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

/s/ Carlos A. Ruisanchez Carlos A. Ruisanchez	President and Chief Financial Officer	August 13, 2013
	(Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer)	
/s/ John A. Godfrey John A. Godfrey	Executive Vice President, Secretary and Director	August 13, 2013
/s/ Thomas LaPlaca Thomas LaPlaca	Executive Vice President, Treasurer and Director	August 13, 2013