WALSH PETER Form 4 January 05, 2011

FORM 4

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

OMB APPROVAL

Check this box if no longer subject to

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

January 31, Expires: 2005

Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

SECURITIES Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

may continue. See Instruction

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).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * WALSH PETER			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol AMERISTAR CASINOS INC [ASCA]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
(Last) (First) (Middle) 16633 VENTURA BOULEVARD, SUITE 1050		` /	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/03/2011	Director 10% OwnerX_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) SVP, GC, Chief Admin Officer		
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person		
ENCINO, CA 91436				Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tabl	e I - Non-I	Derivative	Secur	ities Acq	uired, Disposed o	f, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securon(A) or D (Instr. 3,	ispose 4 and (A)	d of (D)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	01/03/2011		Code V	Amount 541	or (D)	Price \$ 15.63	(Instr. 3 and 4) 83,942 (1)	D	
Common Stock	01/03/2011		G V	914	D	\$ 0	83,028 (1)	D	
Common Stock	01/03/2011		G V	914	A	\$ 0	23,059	I	Family Trust (2)

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

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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	2.	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)		4.	5. onNumber	6. Date Exerc		7. Titl		8. Price of Derivative	9. Nu Deriv
Security (Instr. 3)	Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Tear)	any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	of			Under	rlying	Security (Instr. 5)	Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address			•	
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
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WALSH PETER 16633 VENTURA BOULEVARD SUITE 1050 ENCINO, CA 91436

SVP, GC, Chief Admin Officer

Relationships

Signatures

/s/ Peter C. 01/05/2011 Walsh

**Signature of Date
Reporting Person

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 previously reported restricted stock units and performance share units, each of which constitutes the right to receive one share of common stock in the future.
- (2) Securities owned by the Walsh Family Trust dated 9-11-03, of which Mr. Walsh and his spouse are co-trustees.

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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