

Searles Michael M
Form 3
September 15, 2011

FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

Â Searles Michael M
(Last) (First) (Middle)

10201 MAIN STREET

(Street)

HOUSTON,Â TXÂ 77025

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Date of Event Requiring Statement

(Month/Day/Year)
09/12/2011

3. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol
STAGE STORES INC [SSI]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer ____ Other
(give title below) (specify below)
Pres., COO South Hill Division

5. If Amendment, Date Original 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 Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security
(Instr. 4)

2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned
(Instr. 4)

3. Ownership Form:
Direct (D)
or Indirect (I)
(Instr. 5)

4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
(Instr. 5)

Common Stock

40,000 ⁽¹⁾

D Â

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

1. Title of Derivative Security
(Instr. 4)

2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date
(Month/Day/Year)

3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security
(Instr. 4)

4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security

5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security:
Direct (D)
or Indirect

6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
(Instr. 5)

Date Exercisable

Expiration Date

Title

Amount or Number of

Shares

(I)
(Instr. 5)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Searles Michael M 10201 MAIN STREET HOUSTON, TX 77025	Â	Â	Â Pres., COO South Hill Division	Â

Signatures

/s/ R.E. Stasyszen, Attorney in Fact for Michael M.
Searles

09/15/2011

__Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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).

On September 12, 2011, the reporting person was granted 40,000 shares of restricted common stock. 20,000 shares will vest, on a
(1) three-year cliff basis, on September 12, 2014. The remaining 20,000 shares will vest 25% per year on the first four anniversary dates from the date of grant.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *See* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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