WALSH PETER
Form 4
March 05, 2012

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN 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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. *See* Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
WALSH PETER

(Last) (First) (Middle)

16633 VENTURA BOULEVARD, SUITE 1050

(Street)

ENCINO, CA 91436

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol
AMERISTAR CASINOS INC [ASCA]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
03/05/2012

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

_____ Director _____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
SVP, GC, Chief Admin Officer

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 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 (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	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			
Common Stock	03/05/2012		M		10,000	A	$ 13.18	52,636	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012		S		100	D	$ 19.265	52,536	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012		S		200	D	$ 19.27	52,336	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012		S		100	D	$ 19.295	52,236	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012		S		500	D	$ 19.3	51,736	I	Family Trust (1)

Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	100	D	$ 19.305	51,636	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	500	D	$ 19.31	51,136	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	1,100	D	$ 19.32	50,036	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	100	D	$ 19.325	49,936	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	1,100	D	$ 19.33	48,836	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	500	D	$ 19.332	48,336	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	1,600	D	$ 19.34	46,736	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	400	D	$ 19.35	46,336	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	600	D	$ 19.36	45,736	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	200	D	$ 19.365	45,536	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	400	D	$ 19.38	45,136	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	100	D	$ 19.39	45,036	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	890	D	$ 19.4	44,146	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	100	D	$ 19.405	44,046	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	300	D	$ 19.41	43,746	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	200	D	$ 19.415	43,546	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	300	D	$ 19.42	43,246	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	400	D	$ 19.43	42,846	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	110	D	$ 19.44	42,736	I	Family Trust (1)
Common Stock	03/05/2012	S	100	D	$ 19.45	42,636	I	Family Trust (1)
						92,424 (2)	D	

Common Stock

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

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount Underlying Securiti (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amou or Numb of Sha
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	$ 13.18	03/05/2012		M			10,000	04/02/2003(3)	03/08/2012	Common Stock	10,0

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
WALSH PETER 16633 VENTURA BOULEVARD SUITE 1050 ENCINO, CA 91436			SVP, GC, Chief Admin Officer	

Signatures

/s/ Peter C. Walsh	03/05/2012
**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).

(1) Securities owned by the Walsh Family Trust dated 9-11-03, of which Mr. Walsh and his spouse are co-trustees.

(2) Balance includes previously reported restricted stock units, each of which constitutes the right to receive one share of common stock in the future.

(3) Option vested in five equal annual installments commencing on April 2, 2003.

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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