#### **AMERISTAR CASINOS INC**

Form 4

August 10, 2006

### FORM 4

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

obligations

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

may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*

**NEILSEN CRAIG H** 

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

AMERISTAR CASINOS INC

[ASCA]

(Last) (First) (Middle)

(Street)

(Month/Day/Year)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

08/08/2006

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

X\_\_ 10% Owner

\_ Other (specify

**OMB APPROVAL** 

Estimated average

burden hours per

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

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Number:

Expires:

response...

3773 HOWARD HUGHES

PKWY, SUITE 490S

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

below) CEO/President

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

\_X\_ Director

X\_ Officer (give title

\_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

LAS VEGAS, NV 89169

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	le I - Non-I	Derivative	Secur	ities Acqu	ired, Disposed of	, 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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired n(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)  (A) or		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)	Ownership Form: Direct (D) or	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
			Code V	Amount		Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock	08/08/2006		P	400	A	\$ 18.57	31,008,400	D	
Common Stock	08/10/2006		P	400	A	\$ 18.4	31,008,800	D	
Common Stock	08/10/2006		P	500	A	\$ 18.62	31,009,300	D	
Common Stock	08/10/2006		P	100	A	\$ 18.65	31,009,400	D	
Common Stock	08/10/2006		P	200	A	\$ 18.72	31,009,600	D	

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Common Stock	08/10/2006	P	10,000	A	\$ 18.73	31,019,600	D
Common Stock	08/10/2006	P	600	A	\$ 18.75	31,020,200	D
Common Stock	08/10/2006	P	200	A	\$ 18.77	31,020,400	D
Common Stock	08/10/2006	P	500	A	\$ 18.79	31,020,900	D
Common Stock	08/10/2006	P	300	A	\$ 18.8	31,021,200	D
Common Stock	08/10/2006	P	476	A	\$ 18.81	31,021,676	D
Common Stock	08/10/2006	P	124	A	\$ 18.83	31,021,800	D
Common Stock	08/10/2006	P	9	A	\$ 18.91	31,021,809	D
Common Stock	08/10/2006	P	1,291	A	\$ 18.92	31,023,100	D
Common Stock	08/10/2006	P	500	A	\$ 18.94	31,023,600	D
Common Stock	08/10/2006	P	8,600	A	\$ 18.95	31,032,200	D
Common Stock	08/10/2006	P	73	A	\$ 18.97	31,032,273	D
Common Stock	08/10/2006	P	8,308	A	\$ 18.98	31,040,581	D
Common Stock	08/10/2006	P	765	A	\$ 18.99	31,041,346	D
Common Stock	08/10/2006	P	17,054	A	\$ 19	31,058,400	D

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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 Exercisable and	7. Title and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transactio	orNumber	Expiration Date	Amount of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/Year)	Underlying	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivativo	e	Securities	(Instr. 5)	Bene

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Derivative Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) Security Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) Code V (A) (D) Date Expiration Title Amount Exercisable Date Number of Shares

Own

Follo

Repo

Trans

(Insti

### **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
•	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
NEILSEN CRAIG H						
3773 HOWARD HUGHES PKWY	X	X	CEO/President			
SUITE 490S	Λ	Λ	CEO/Flesidelli			
LAS VEGAS, NV 89169						

### **Signatures**

Peter C. Walsh,
Attorney-in-Fact

\*\*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).

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.

Reporting Owners 3