

STEINBAUER THOMAS M  
Form 4  
April 29, 2009

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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).

**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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
STEINBAUER THOMAS M

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
  
(Check all applicable)  
 Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Senior V.P. of Finance, CFO

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
3773 HOWARD HUGHES  
PKWY, SUITE 490S  
  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
04/27/2009

LAS VEGAS, NV 89169

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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)
Common Stock	04/27/2009		M	V A	Amount \$ 6.9675	57,470 (1)	D

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

**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.**

SEC 1474  
(9-02)

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

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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 of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
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Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
12/19/2003 <sup>(2)</sup>	12/20/2012	Common Stock	5,340

### Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
STEINBAUER THOMAS M 3773 HOWARD HUGHES PKWY SUITE 490S LAS VEGAS, NV 89169	X		Senior V.P. of Finance, CFO	

### Signatures

/s/ Thomas M. Steinbauer  
Date: 04/29/2009

### 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) Total includes previously reported restricted stock units, each of which represents the right to acquire one share of common stock of the Issuer in the future.
- (2) Option vested in five equal annual installments commencing on December 19, 2003.

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.