Cochrane Luther P Form 4 November 12, 2010

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

OMB 3235-0287

**OMB APPROVAL** 

Number: Expires:

January 31,

2005

0.5

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Check this box

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*

Cochrane Luther P

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

AMERISTAR CASINOS INC

[ASCA]

(Last) (First) (Middle)

(Zip)

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

07/30/2010

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

10% Owner

Other (specify

3773 HOWARD HUGHES

PKWY, SUITE 490S

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

below)

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

X\_ Director

Officer (give title

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

D

LAS VEGAS, NV 89169

(City)

Common

Stock

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Instr. 3) (Month/Day/Year)

(State)

07/30/2010

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

(1)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Beneficial Ownership Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

(A) Transaction(s) or

(Instr. 3 and 4) Price (D)

A

Code V Amount 3,750 \$0

 $15,000^{(2)}$ 

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)

#### Edgar Filing: Cochrane Luther P - Form 4

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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number proof 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)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 15.62	07/30/2010		A	3,750	07/29/2011(3)	07/30/2020	Common Stock	3,750

# **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
. 0	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Cochrane Luther P 3773 HOWARD HUGHES PKWY SUITE 490S LAS VEGAS, NV 89169	X					

## **Signatures**

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

/s/ Peter C. Walsh, Attorney-in-Fact

## **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) Constitutes a grant of restricted stock units, each of which represents a right to receive one share of common stock in the future. Such restricted stock units vest in four equal, annual installments commencing on July 29, 2011.
- (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) Options vest in four equal, annual installments commencing on July 29, 2011.

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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