MALONE THOMAS

Form 4 July 29, 2008

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

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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 * MALONE THOMAS

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Issuer

AMERISTAR CASINOS INC

[ASCA]

(Check all applicable)

Vice President and Controller

10% Owner

Beneficial

Ownership

(Instr. 4)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Last) (First) (Middle)

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

07/25/2008

X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below)

3773 HOWARD HUGHES PKWY, SUITE 490S

(Street)

(State)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

(A)

Applicable Line)

Director

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

LAS VEGAS, NV 89169

(City)

Common

Stock

1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Instr. 3) (Month/Day/Year)

07/25/2008(1)

(Zip)

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

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Securities Form: Direct Indirect Beneficially (D) or Owned Indirect (I) Following (Instr. 4)

Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

or Code V Price Amount (D)

10,550 A A (1)

\$0 10,550 D

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)

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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. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of onDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisab Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year		7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and	Securities
				Code V	(A) (D	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Share
Stock Options (Right to	\$ 12.57	07/25/2008		A	10,550	07/24/2009(2)	07/25/2018	Common Stock	10,550

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

MALONE THOMAS 3773 HOWARD HUGHES PKWY SUITE 490S LAS VEGAS, NV 89169

Vice President and Controller

Signatures

buy)

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).
- (1) Constitutes a grant of restricted stock units, each of which represents a right to receive one share of common stock. The restricted stock units vest in four equal, annual installments commencing on July 24, 2009.
- (2) Option vests in four equal, annual installments commencing on July 24, 2009.

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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