

AMERISTAR CASINOS INC
Form 4
August 04, 2009

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31, 2005
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *
HODGES LARRY

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
07/31/2009

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
President, COO

LAS VEGAS, NV 89169

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	07/31/2009		A	(A) Amount 55,530 (1)	\$ 0 86,862 (2)	D	
Common Stock					45,681	I	Family Trust (3)

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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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 of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 18.62	07/31/2009		A	43,030	07/30/2010 ⁽⁴⁾ 07/31/2019	Common Stock 43,030

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
HODGES LARRY 3773 HOWARD HUGHES PKWY SUITE 490S LAS VEGAS, NV 89169	X		President, COO	

Signatures

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

08/04/2009

__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 in the future. Such restricted stock units vest in four equal, annual installments commencing on July 30, 2010.
- (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) Securities owned by The Larry Hodges Family Trust, of which Mr. Hodges is the sole trustee.
- (4) Options vest in four equal, annual installments commencing on July 30, 2010.

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.