

AMERISTAR CASINOS INC

Form 3

November 28, 2006

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104

Expires: January 31, 2005

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *

Â NEILSEN ESTATE OF
CRAIG H

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O AMERISTAR CASINOS
INC.,Â 3773 HOWARD
HUGHES PKWY SUITE 490S

(Street)

LAS VEGAS,Â NVÂ 89169

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Date of Event Requiring Statement

(Month/Day/Year)
11/19/20063. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
AMERISTAR CASINOS INC [ASCA]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director ____X__ 10% Owner
____ Officer ____ Other
(give title below) (specify below)

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

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

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned1. Title of Security
(Instr. 4)2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned
(Instr. 4)3. Ownership Form:
Direct (D)
or Indirect (I)
(Instr. 5)4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
(Instr. 5)

Common Stock

31,108,400

D Â

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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.

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)1. Title of Derivative Security
(Instr. 4)2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date
(Month/Day/Year)

3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security

4. Conversion or Exercise

5. Ownership Form of

6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership

Edgar Filing: AMERISTAR CASINOS INC - Form 3

	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	(Instr. 4) Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Price of Derivative Security	Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	(Instr. 5)
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	10/28/2005	12/16/2011	Common Stock	210,000	\$ 21.3	D	Â
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	12/15/2005	12/15/2012	Common Stock	210,000	\$ 22.87	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
NEILSEN ESTATE OF CRAIG H C/O AMERISTAR CASINOS INC. 3773 HOWARD HUGHES PKWY SUITE 490S LAS VEGAS, NV 89169	Â	Â X	Â	Â

Signatures

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

11/27/2006

__Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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).

Â

Remarks:

ExhibitÂ List:

ExhibitÂ 24Â LimitedÂ PowerÂ ofÂ AttorneyÂ forÂ SectionÂ 16Â ReportingÂ Obligations

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.