

CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND  
 Form 3  
 January 12, 2009

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**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)

<p>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *</p> <p>Â MORGAN STANLEY</p> <p>(Last) (First) (Middle)</p> <p>1585 BROADWAY</p> <p>(Street)</p> <p>NEW YORK,Â NYÂ 10036</p> <p>(City) (State) (Zip)</p>	<p>2. Date of Event Requiring Statement</p> <p>(Month/Day/Year)</p> <p>12/31/2008</p>	<p>3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol</p> <p>CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND [CSQ]</p> <p>4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer</p> <p>(Check all applicable)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner  <input type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other                  (give title below) (specify below)</p>	<p>5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)</p> <p>6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person  <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person</p>
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**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. 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)
Auction Rate Cumulative Preferred	814	I	By Subsidiary

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. SEC 1473 (7-02)

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**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 (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable      Expiration Date	Title      Amount or Number of			

Shares (I)  
(Instr. 5)

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
MORGAN STANLEY 1585 BROADWAY NEW YORK, NY 10036	^	^ X	^	^

## Signatures

/s/ Dennine Bullard, By: Morgan Stanley, By: Dennine Bullard, Authorized Signatory

01/12/2009

\_\_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).

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### Remarks:

The preferred shares reported herein represent the Reporting Person's combined holdings in multiple series of preferred securities of the Issuer, which are treated herein as one class of securities in accordance with the Securities and Exchange Commission's Global Exemptive Relief no-action letter issued by the SEC staff on September 22, 2008. The Reporting Person undertakes to provide, upon request by the SEC staff, complete information regarding the number of the Issuer's equity securities purchased at different prices and dates of all transactions in such securities that occurred after the Reporting Person's filing but prior to the date of this filing.

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.