

STAGE STORES INC
Form 3
July 16, 2007

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)

| | | | | |
|---|---------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * | | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol | |
| Â SCHWARTZ DAVID Y | | (Month/Day/Year) | STAGE STORES INC [SSI] | |
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 07/05/2007 | |
| 10201 MAIN STREET | | | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) |
| (Street) | | | (Check all applicable) | |
| HOUSTON,Â TXÂ 77025 | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) | |
| | | | Director | |

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) |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|

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

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|--------|----------|---|---|
| Stock Option | 07/05/2008 ⁽¹⁾ | 07/05/2014 ⁽¹⁾ | Common Stock | 10,258 | \$ 20.83 | D | Â |
|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|--------|----------|---|---|

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| SCHWARTZ DAVID Y 10201 MAIN STREET HOUSTON, TX 77025 | Â X | Â | Â Director | Â |

Signatures

| | |
|--|------------|
| /s/ R. E. Stasyszen, Attorney in Fact for David Y. Schwartz | 07/16/2007 |
| **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).

(1) On July 5, 2007, Mr. Schwartz was granted stock options with respect to a total of 10,258 shares of the Issuer's common stock. The grant price for the stock options is \$20.83 per share of common stock. The stock options will vest at a rate of 25% per year on each of the first four anniversary dates from the date of grant. They will expire on the earlier of (i) sixty days after the date Mr. Schwartz is no longer a Director of the Issuer, or (ii) seven years from the date of grant.

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.