

CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND  
Form N-Q  
September 25, 2009

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

**FORM N-Q  
QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS OF REGISTERED  
MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES**

INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT FILE NUMBER: 811-21484

EXACT NAME OF REGISTRANT AS SPECIFIED IN CHARTER: Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund

ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES: 2020 Calamos Court, Naperville  
Illinois 60563

NAME AND ADDRESS OF AGENT FOR SERVICE: John P. Calamos Sr., President  
Calamos Advisors LLC,  
2020 Calamos Court,  
Naperville, Illinois  
60563

REGISTRANT'S TELEPHONE NUMBER, INCLUDING AREA CODE: (630) 245-7200

DATE OF FISCAL YEAR END: October 31, 2009

DATE OF REPORTING PERIOD: July 31, 2009

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**ITEM 1. SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS JULY 31, 2009 (UNAUDITED)**

Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund

**SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS JULY 31, 2009 (UNAUDITED)**

<b>PRINCIPAL AMOUNT</b>		<b>VALUE</b>
<b>CORPORATE BONDS (36.4%)</b>		
	<i>Consumer Discretionary (7.2%)</i>	
4,920,000	Asbury Automotive Group, Inc. 8.000%, 03/15/14	\$ 4,305,000
3,936,000	DIRECTV Financing Company, Inc. 8.375%, 03/15/13	4,039,320
15,253,000	DISH Network Corp.μ 7.125%, 02/01/16	14,871,675
17,713,000	Expedia, Inc.~ 7.460%, 08/15/18	17,713,000
14,761,000	General Motors Corp.** 7.200%, 01/15/11	2,214,150
16,729,000	Hanesbrands, Inc. μ 4.593%, 12/15/14	14,219,650
4,133,000	Jarden Corp. 7.500%, 05/01/17	3,988,345
3,191,000	Kellwood Company 7.625%, 10/15/17	1,061,007
4,920,000	Liberty Media Corp. 8.250%, 02/01/30	3,567,000
6,396,000	Mandalay Resort Group 7.625%, 07/15/13	3,773,640
4,807,000	MGM Mirage 7.500%, 06/01/16	3,533,145
12,793,000	Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd. 7.500%, 10/15/27μ	8,891,135
3,936,000	7.250%, 06/15/16~	3,266,880
8,857,000	Service Corp. International 6.750%, 04/01/16	8,325,580
2,460,000 GBP	Warner Music Group Corp. 8.125%, 04/15/14	2,979,248
		96,748,775
	<i>Consumer Staples (4.0%)</i>	
11,563,000		10,609,053

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	Chiquita Brands International, Inc.μ	
	7.500%, 11/01/14	
6,396,000	Del Monte Foods Company	
	8.625%, 12/15/12	6,555,900
10,825,000	NBTY, Inc.μ	
	7.125%, 10/01/15	10,446,125
	Pilgrim s Pride Corp.**	
11,809,000	8.375%, 05/01/17	9,860,515
5,904,000	7.625%, 05/01/15	5,475,960
14,761,000	Smithfield Foods, Inc.μ	
	7.750%, 07/01/17	11,144,555
		54,092,108
	<b>Energy (4.8%)</b>	
	Chesapeake Energy Corp.	
6,888,000	6.875%, 01/15/16	6,509,160
3,936,000	7.500%, 06/15/14	3,906,480
1,968,000	Dresser-Rand Group, Inc.	
	7.375%, 11/01/14	1,918,800
2,952,000	GulfMark Offshore, Inc.	
	7.750%, 07/15/14	2,774,880
	Mariner Energy, Inc.	
6,888,000	8.000%, 05/15/17	6,027,000
2,952,000	11.750%, 06/30/16	3,099,600
4,920,000	Petrohawk Energy Corp.	
	7.125%, 04/01/12	4,858,500
2,952,000	Pride International, Inc.	
	8.500%, 06/15/19	3,173,400
4,920,000	Superior Energy Services, Inc.	
	6.875%, 06/01/14	4,674,000
1,968,000	Valero Energy Corp.~	
	7.500%, 06/15/15	2,020,772
6,377,000	Whiting Petroleum Corp.	
	7.250%, 05/01/12	6,440,770
19,681,000	Williams Companies, Inc.	
	7.750%, 06/15/31	20,028,960
		65,432,322
	<b>Financials (6.7%)</b>	
42,315,000	Ford Motor Credit Company, LLCμ	
	9.875%, 08/10/11	41,946,563
	Leucadia National Corp.	
16,375,000	8.125%, 09/15/15~	15,842,813
10,825,000	7.000%, 08/15/13μ	10,419,062
17,713,000	Nuveen Investments, Inc.*	
	10.500%, 11/15/15	12,664,795
10,333,000	Senior Housing Properties Trust~	
	8.625%, 01/15/12	10,333,000

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		91,206,233
	<b><i>Health Care (0.9%)</i></b>	
2,214,000	Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc.~ 7.500%, 08/15/13	2,258,280
10,825,000	Psychiatric Solutions, Inc.µ 7.750%, 07/15/15	10,310,812
		12,569,092
	<b><i>Industrials (2.0%)</i></b>	
2,952,000	BE Aerospace, Inc.~ 8.500%, 07/01/18	2,944,620
2,214,000	Belden, Inc. 7.000%, 03/15/17	1,959,390
4,920,000	Gardner Denver, Inc. 8.000%, 05/01/13	4,489,500
4,458,000	H&E Equipment Service, Inc. 8.375%, 07/15/16	3,767,010
3,405,000	SPX Corp. 7.625%, 12/15/14	3,405,000
1,968,000	Terex Corp. 8.000%, 11/15/17	1,638,360
5,658,000	Trinity Industries, Inc. 6.500%, 03/15/14	5,120,490

See accompanying Notes to Schedule of Investments

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## SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS JULY 31, 2009 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT		VALUE
4,920,000	Wesco Distribution, Inc. 7.500%, 10/15/17	\$ 3,960,600
		27,284,970
	<b>Information Technology (3.6%)</b>	
12,077,000	Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. 7.750%, 11/01/12	9,450,252
15,745,000	Amkor Technology, Inc. 9.250%, 06/01/16μ	16,138,625
1,122,000	7.750%, 05/15/13	1,093,950
6,396,000	Freescall Semiconductor, Inc. 8.875%, 12/15/14	4,317,300
3,936,000	Jabil Circuit, Inc. 8.250%, 03/15/18	3,876,960
7,164,000	Lender Processing Services, Inc. 8.125%, 07/01/16	7,271,460
1,968,000	Lexmark International, Inc.~ 6.650%, 06/01/18	1,810,590
4,822,000	SunGard Data Systems, Inc. 9.125%, 08/15/13	4,942,550
		48,901,687
	<b>Materials (2.5%)</b>	
1,968,000	Allegheny Technologies, Inc. 9.375%, 06/01/19	2,159,839
2,952,000	Century Aluminum Company 7.500%, 08/15/14	2,162,340
2,660,000	Nalco Holding Company* 8.250%, 05/15/17	2,779,700
2,952,000	P.H. Glatfelter Company 7.125%, 05/01/16	2,760,120
2,992,000	Silgan Holdings, Inc.* 7.250%, 08/15/16	3,006,960
10,775,000	Union Carbide Corp.~ 7.875%, 04/01/23	8,268,250

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8,512,000	7.500%, 06/01/25	6,340,546
7,233,000	Westlake Chemical Corp. 6.625%, 01/15/16	6,690,525
		34,168,280
	<b><i>Telecommunication Services (3.9%)</i></b>	
17,418,000	Frontier Communications Corp.µ 9.000%, 08/15/31	16,111,650
17,713,000	Leap Wireless International, Inc.µ 9.375%, 11/01/14	18,067,260
14,298,000	Qwest Communications International, Inc.µ 7.750%, 02/15/31	11,080,950
4,920,000	Syniverse Technologies, Inc. 7.750%, 08/15/13	4,501,800
2,952,000	Windstream Corp. 8.625%, 08/01/16	3,011,040
		52,772,700
	<b><i>Utilities (0.8%)</i></b>	
13,777,000	Energy Future Holdings Corp. 10.250%, 11/01/15	10,883,830
	<b>TOTAL CORPORATE BONDS</b> (Cost \$564,423,940)	494,059,997
	<b>CONVERTIBLE BONDS (15.2%)</b>	
	<b><i>Consumer Discretionary (5.2%)</i></b>	
40,000,000	Ford Motor Companyµ 4.250%, 12/15/36	43,050,000
7,000,000	General Motors Corp. - Class C** 6.250% 07/15/33	857,500
12,000,000	Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc.µ 4.750%, 03/15/23	10,845,000
15,000,000	Liberty Media Corp. (Time Warner, Inc., Time Warner Cable)µΔ 3.125%, 03/30/23	13,181,250
5,680,000	Liberty Media Corp. (Viacom and CBS Corp. - Class B)Δ 3.250%, 03/15/31	2,385,600
		70,319,350
	<b><i>Energy (0.5%)</i></b>	
8,290,000	St. Mary Land & Exploration Company 3.500%, 04/01/27	7,347,013
	<b><i>Financials (1.2%)</i></b>	
14,000,000	Affiliated Managers Group, Inc.*~ 3.950%, 08/15/38	12,530,000

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3,970,000	Health Care REIT, Inc.~ 4.750%, 07/15/27	4,094,062
		16,624,062
	<b>Industrials (2.7%)</b>	
25,597,000	L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc.µ 3.000%, 08/01/35	25,788,977
18,000,000	Trinity Industries, Inc. 3.875%, 06/01/36	10,777,500
		36,566,477
	<b>Information Technology (5.4%)</b>	
16,000,000	Euronet Worldwide, Inc.µ 3.500%, 10/15/25	14,520,000
31,500,000	Intel Corp.~ 2.950%, 12/15/35	27,641,250
33,900,000	Linear Technology Corp.µ 3.000%, 05/01/27	31,188,000
		73,349,250
	<b>Materials (0.2%)</b>	
2,000,000	Newmont Mining Corp.µ 3.000%, 02/15/12	2,322,500
	<b>TOTAL CONVERTIBLE BONDS</b> (Cost \$247,554,191)	206,528,652

See accompanying Notes to Schedule of Investments

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## Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund

**SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS JULY 31, 2009 (UNAUDITED)**

<b>PRINCIPAL AMOUNT</b>		<b>VALUE</b>
<b>SYNTHETIC CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES (0.6%)</b>		
<i>Corporate Bonds (0.6%)</i>		
	<i>Consumer Discretionary (0.1%)</i>	
80,000	Asbury Automotive Group, Inc. 8.000%, 03/15/14	\$ 70,000
64,000	DIRECTV Financing Company, Inc. 8.375%, 03/15/13	65,680
247,000	DISH Network Corp.μ 7.125%, 02/01/16	240,825
287,000	Expedia, Inc.~ 7.460%, 08/15/18	287,000
239,000	General Motors Corp.** 7.200%, 01/15/11	35,850
271,000	Hanesbrands, Inc. μ 4.593%, 12/15/14	230,350
67,000	Jarden Corp. 7.500%, 05/01/17	64,655
52,000	Kellwood Company 7.625%, 10/15/17	17,290
80,000	Liberty Media Corp. 8.250%, 02/01/30	58,000
104,000	Mandalay Resort Group 7.625%, 07/15/13	61,360
78,000	MGM Mirage 7.500%, 06/01/16	57,330
207,000	Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd. 7.500%, 10/15/27μ	143,865
64,000	7.250%, 06/15/16~	53,120
143,000	Service Corp. International 6.750%, 04/01/16	134,420
40,000 GBP	Warner Music Group Corp. 8.125%, 04/15/14	48,443
		1,568,188
	<i>Consumer Staples (0.1%)</i>	
187,000		171,572



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	Chiquita Brands International, Inc.μ	
	7.500%, 11/01/14	
104,000	Del Monte Foods Company	
	8.625%, 12/15/12	106,600
175,000	NBTY, Inc.μ	
	7.125%, 10/01/15	168,875
	Pilgrim s Pride Corp.**	
191,000	8.375%, 05/01/17	159,485
96,000	7.625%, 05/01/15	89,040
239,000	Smithfield Foods, Inc.μ	
	7.750%, 07/01/17	180,445
		876,017
	<b>Energy (0.1%)</b>	
	Chesapeake Energy Corp.	
112,000	6.875%, 01/15/16	105,840
64,000	7.500%, 06/15/14	63,520
32,000	Dresser-Rand Group, Inc.	
	7.375%, 11/01/14	31,200
48,000	GulfMark Offshore, Inc.	
	7.750%, 07/15/14	45,120
	Mariner Energy, Inc.	
112,000	8.000%, 05/15/17	98,000
48,000	11.750%, 06/30/16	50,400
80,000	Petrohawk Energy Corp.	
	7.125%, 04/01/12	79,000
48,000	Pride International, Inc.	
	8.500%, 06/15/19	51,600
80,000	Superior Energy Services, Inc.	
	6.875%, 06/01/14	76,000
32,000	Valero Energy Corp.~	
	7.500%, 06/15/15	32,858
103,000	Whiting Petroleum Corp.	
	7.250%, 05/01/12	104,030
319,000	Williams Companies, Inc.	
	7.750%, 06/15/31	324,640
		1,062,208
	<b>Financials (0.1%)</b>	
685,000	Ford Motor Credit Company, LLCμ	
	9.875%, 08/10/11	679,036
	Leucadia National Corp.	
265,000	8.125%, 09/15/15~	256,387
175,000	7.000%, 08/15/13μ	168,438
287,000	Nuveen Investments, Inc.*	
	10.500%, 11/15/15	205,205
167,000	Senior Housing Properties Trust~	
	8.625%, 01/15/12	167,000

		1,476,066
	<b>Health Care (0.0%)</b>	
36,000	Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc.~ 7.500%, 08/15/13	36,720
175,000	Psychiatric Solutions, Inc.μ 7.750%, 07/15/15	166,688
		203,408
	<b>Industrials (0.0%)</b>	
48,000	BE Aerospace, Inc.~ 8.500%, 07/01/18	47,880
36,000	Belden, Inc. 7.000%, 03/15/17	31,860
80,000	Gardner Denver, Inc. 8.000%, 05/01/13	73,000
72,000	H&E Equipment Service, Inc. 8.375%, 07/15/16	60,840
55,000	SPX Corp. 7.625%, 12/15/14	55,000
32,000	Terex Corp. 8.000%, 11/15/17	26,640
92,000	Trinity Industries, Inc. 6.500%, 03/15/14	83,260

See accompanying Notes to Schedule of Investments

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## SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS JULY 31, 2009 (UNAUDITED)

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT		VALUE
80,000	Wesco Distribution, Inc. 7.500%, 10/15/17	\$ 64,400
		442,880
	<b><i>Information Technology (0.1%)</i></b>	
196,000	Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. 7.750%, 11/01/12	153,370
255,000	Amkor Technology, Inc. 9.250%, 06/01/16μ	261,375
18,000	7.750%, 05/15/13	17,550
104,000	Freescale Semiconductor, Inc. 8.875%, 12/15/14	70,200
64,000	Jabil Circuit, Inc. 8.250%, 03/15/18	63,040
116,000	Lender Processing Services, Inc. 8.125%, 07/01/16	117,740
32,000	Lexmark International, Inc.~ 6.650%, 06/01/18	29,440
78,000	SunGard Data Systems, Inc. 9.125%, 08/15/13	79,950
		792,665
	<b><i>Materials (0.0%)</i></b>	
32,000	Allegheny Technologies, Inc. 9.375%, 06/01/19	35,119
48,000	Century Aluminum Company 7.500%, 08/15/14	35,160
43,000	Nalco Holding Company* 8.250%, 05/15/17	44,935
48,000	P.H. Glatfelter Company 7.125%, 05/01/16	44,880
48,000	Silgan Holdings, Inc.* 7.250%, 08/15/16	48,240
175,000	Union Carbide Corp.~ 7.875%, 04/01/23	134,287

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138,000	7.500%, 06/01/25	102,796
117,000	Westlake Chemical Corp. 6.625%, 01/15/16	108,225
		553,642
	<b><i>Telecommunication Services (0.1%)</i></b>	
282,000	Frontier Communications Corp.µ 9.000%, 08/15/31	260,850
287,000	Leap Wireless International, Inc.µ 9.375%, 11/01/14	292,740
232,000	Qwest Communications International, Inc.µ 7.750%, 02/15/31	179,800
80,000	Syniverse Technologies, Inc. 7.750%, 08/15/13	73,200
48,000	Windstream Corp. 8.625%, 08/01/16	48,960
		855,550
	<b><i>Utilities (0.0%)</i></b>	
223,000	Energy Future Holdings Corp. 10.250%, 11/01/15	176,170
	<b>TOTAL CORPORATE BONDS</b>	<b>8,006,794</b>

**NUMBER OF  
CONTRACTS**

**VALUE**

***Purchased Options (0.0%)#***

	<b><i>Consumer Discretionary (0.0%)</i></b>	
	Nike, Inc. - Class B	
1,470	Call, 01/16/10, Strike \$60.00	463,050
1,350	Call, 01/16/10, Strike \$70.00	108,000
		571,050
	<b><i>Consumer Staples (0.0%)</i></b>	
2,400	Walgreen Company Call, 01/16/10, Strike \$32.50	348,000
	<b><i>Energy (0.0%)</i></b>	
500	Transocean, Ltd. Call, 01/16/10, Strike \$160.00	1,250
	<b><i>Health Care (0.0%)</i></b>	
1,580	Gilead Sciences, Inc. Call, 01/16/10, Strike \$55.00	252,800
	<b><i>Information Technology (0.0%)</i></b>	

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190	Apple, Inc. Call, 01/16/10, Strike \$170.00	238,925
	<b>TOTAL PURCHASED OPTIONS</b>	1,412,025
	<b>TOTAL SYNTHETIC CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES</b> (Cost \$17,584,126)	9,418,819

**NUMBER OF  
SHARES**

**VALUE**

**CONVERTIBLE PREFERRED STOCKS (13.8%)**

	<i><b>Consumer Discretionary (1.1%)</b></i>	
20,000	Stanley Works μ 5.125%	14,430,000
	<i><b>Consumer Staples (2.3%)</b></i>	
470,000	Archer Daniels Midland Company μ 6.250%	18,541,500
18,000	Bunge, Ltd. 5.125%	12,307,500
		30,849,000
	<i><b>Financials (3.4%)</b></i>	
425,000	American International Group, Inc. 8.500%	3,400,000
43,000	Bank of America Corp. μ 7.250%	36,120,000
14,000	SLM Corp. 7.250%	7,070,000
		46,590,000

See accompanying Notes to Schedule of Investments

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## Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund

**SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS JULY 31, 2009 (UNAUDITED)**

NUMBER OF SHARES		VALUE
195,000	<i>Health Care (3.4%)</i> Schering-Plough Corp. 6.000%	\$ 45,481,800
390,000	<i>Materials (3.6%)</i> Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc.μ 6.750%	35,973,600
2,000 CHF	Givaudan, SA 5.375%	12,480,711
		48,454,311
	<b>TOTAL CONVERTIBLE PREFERRED STOCKS</b> (Cost \$272,994,470)	185,805,111
NUMBER OF UNITS		VALUE
	<b>STRUCTURED EQUITY-LINKED SECURITIES (3.1%)*</b>	
237,000	<i>Energy (2.5%)</i> Barclays Capital, Inc. (Noble Corp.) 12.000% 01/29/10	8,584,140
213,000	BNP Paribas (ENSCO International, Inc.)μ 12.000% 01/29/10	8,358,120
285,000	Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (Cameron International Corp.) 12.000% 02/16/10	8,846,400
356,000	Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.(Halliburton Company) 12.000% 12/23/09	8,020,680
		33,809,340
245,000	<i>Health Care (0.6%)</i>	8,513,750

Deutsche Bank, AG (Medtronic, Inc.)  
11.000% 05/27/10

**TOTAL STRUCTURED EQUITY-LINKED  
SECURITIES**

(Cost \$42,459,000) 42,323,090

**PRINCIPAL  
AMOUNT**

**VALUE**

**U.S. GOVERNMENT SECURITY (0.2%)**

3,200,000	United States Treasury Noteµ 3.125%, 11/30/09 (Cost \$3,230,894)	3,230,627
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**NUMBER OF  
SHARES**

**VALUE**

**COMMON STOCKS (71.0%)**

<b><i>Consumer Discretionary (5.2%)</i></b>		
102,527	Amazon.com, Inc.µ	8,792,716
800,000	Carnival Corp.µ	22,392,000
300,000	CBS Corp.µ	2,457,000
400,000	Harley-Davidson, Inc.µ	9,040,000
1,086,217	Walt Disney Companyµ	27,285,771
		69,967,487

<b><i>Consumer Staples (6.6%)</i></b>		
1,275,000	Coca-Cola Companyµ	63,546,000
250,000	Kimberly-Clark Corp.µ	14,612,500
450,000	Sysco Corp.µ	10,692,000
		88,850,500

<b><i>Energy (13.0%)</i></b>		
700,000	BP, PLCµ	35,028,000
665,000	Chevron Corp.µ	46,197,550
6,500,000 HKD	CNOOC, Ltd.	8,648,414
775,000	ConocoPhillipsµ	33,875,250
100,000	Diamond Offshore Drilling, Inc.	8,987,000
575,000	Marathon Oil Corp.µ	18,543,750
400,000 BRL	Petróleo Brasileiro, SA	8,264,773
50,000 EUR	Technip, SA	3,026,993
150,000 EUR	TOTAL, SA	8,319,101
125,000 AUD	Woodside Petroleum, Ltd.	4,790,887

175,681,718

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	<b><i>Financials (6.7%)</i></b>	
500,000	Bank of America Corp.µ	7,395,000
8,826,907	Citigroup, Inc.µ	27,981,295
1,050,000	JPMorgan Chase & Companyµ	40,582,500
158,074	Lincoln National Corp.µ	3,349,588
271,950	MetLife, Inc.µ	9,232,703
71,676	Wells Fargo & Companyµ	1,753,195
		90,294,281
	<b><i>Health Care (15.0%)</i></b>	
1,375,000	Bristol-Myers Squibb Companyµ	29,892,500
300,000	Eli Lilly and Companyµ	10,467,000
945,000	Johnson & Johnsonµ	57,541,050
1,755,000	Merck & Company, Inc.µ	52,667,550
3,300,000	Pfizer, Inc.µ	52,569,000
		203,137,100
	<b><i>Industrials (8.9%)</i></b>	
312,192	Avery Dennison Corp.µ	8,344,892
680,000	Boeing Companyµ	29,178,800
3,135,000	General Electric Companyµ	42,009,000
480,000	Honeywell International, Inc.µ	16,656,000
450,000	Masco Corp.µ	6,268,500
335,000	United Technologies Corp.µ	18,247,450
		120,704,642
	<b><i>Information Technology (10.3%)</i></b>	
600,000	eBay, Inc.#µ	12,750,000
1,787,000	Intel Corp.µ	34,399,750
1,625,000	Microsoft Corp.µ	38,220,000
300,000	Nintendo Company, Ltd.µ	10,080,630

See accompanying Notes to Schedule of Investments



**SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS JULY 31, 2009 (UNAUDITED)**

NUMBER OF SHARES		VALUE
2,200,000	Nokia Corp.µ	\$ 29,348,000
325,000	QUALCOMM, Inc.µ	15,018,250
		139,816,630
	<b><i>Materials (0.6%)</i></b>	
400,000	Dow Chemical Companyµ	8,468,000
	<b><i>Telecommunication Services (4.7%)</i></b>	
1,225,000	AT&T Inc.µ	32,131,750
450,000 EUR	France Telecom, SA	11,224,321
639,000	Verizon Communications, Inc.µ	20,492,730
		63,848,801
	<b>TOTAL COMMON STOCKS</b>	
	(Cost \$1,388,572,731)	960,769,159
	<b>SHORT-TERM INVESTMENT (0.8%)</b>	
10,507,686	Fidelity Prime Money Market Fund - Institutional Class (Cost \$10,507,686)	10,507,686
	<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS (141.1%)</b>	
	(Cost \$2,547,327,038)	1,912,643,141
	<b>LIABILITIES, LESS OTHER ASSETS (-41.1%)</b>	(556,781,136)
	<b>NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON SHAREHOLDERS (100.0%)</b>	\$ 1,355,862,005
NUMBER OF CONTRACTS		VALUE
	<b>WRITTEN OPTIONS (-2.6%)#</b>	
	<b><i>Financials (-2.6%)</i></b>	
2,000		(1,840,000)

	MetLife, Inc.	
	Call, 09/19/09, Strike \$25.00	
	SPDR Trust Series 1	
11,600	Call, 09/19/09, Strike \$95.00	(6,583,000)
8,700	Call, 12/19/09, Strike \$98.00	(5,459,250)
5,850	Call, 09/19/09, Strike \$90.00	(5,616,000)
5,850	Call, 09/19/09, Strike \$89.00	(6,127,875)
4,500	Call, 12/19/09, Strike \$97.00	(3,071,250)
4,250	Call, 12/19/09, Strike \$96.00	(3,155,625)
3,500	Call, 12/19/09, Strike \$101.00	(1,653,750)
2,500	Call, 09/19/09, Strike \$94.00	(1,593,750)
	<b>TOTAL WRITTEN OPTIONS</b>	
	(Cost \$21,505,674)	(35,100,500)

**NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS**

- μ Security, or portion of security, is held in a segregated account as collateral for loans aggregating a total value of \$1,352,310,591. \$343,209,154 of the collateral has been re-registered by the counterparty.
- ~ Security, or portion of security, is held in a segregated account as collateral for written options and swaps aggregating a total value of \$121,242,808.
- \*\* Security is in default. Pilgrim s Pride Corp filed for bankruptcy protection on December 1, 2008. Variable rate or step bond security. The rate shown is the rate in effect at July 31, 2009.
- \* Securities issued and sold pursuant to a Rule 144A transaction are excepted from the registration requirement of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. These securities may only be sold to qualified institutional buyers ( QIBs ), such as the fund. Any resale of these securities must generally be effected through a sale that is registered under the Act or otherwise exempted from such registration requirements. At July 31, 2009, the value of 144A securities that could not be exchanged to the registered form is \$42,323,090 or 3.1% of net assets.
- Δ Securities exchangeable or convertible into securities of one or more entities that are different than the issuer. Each entity is identified in the parenthetical.
- # Non-income producing security.

**FOREIGN CURRENCY ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>AUD</b>	Australian Dollar
<b>BRL</b>	Brazilian Real
<b>CHF</b>	Swiss Franc
<b>EUR</b>	European Monetary Unit
<b>GBP</b>	British Pound Sterling
<b>HKD</b>	Hong Kong Dollar

*Note: Value for securities denominated in foreign currencies is shown in U.S. dollars. The principal amount for such securities is shown in the respective foreign currency. The date shown on options represents the expiration date on the option contract. The option contract may be exercised at any date on or before the date shown.*

See accompanying Notes to Schedule of Investments

## Strategic Total Return Fund

**INTEREST RATE SWAPS**

<b>Counterparty</b>	<b>Fixed Rate (Fund Pays)</b>	<b>Floating Rate (Fund Receives)</b>	<b>Termination Date</b>	<b>Notional Amount</b>	<b>Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)</b>
BNP Paribas SA	3.355% quarterly	3 month LIBOR	6/9/2014	\$ 60,000,000	\$ (1,680,546)
BNP Paribas SA	2.020% quarterly	3 month LIBOR	3/9/2012	60,000,000	(383,590)
BNP Paribas SA	2.535% quarterly	3 month LIBOR	3/9/2014	90,000,000	595,647
BNP Paribas SA	2.470% quarterly	3 month LIBOR	6/11/2012	40,000,000	(637,226)
BNP Paribas SA	2.135% quarterly	3 month LIBOR	7/3/2012	52,000,000	(221,575)
BNP Paribas SA	2.970% quarterly	3 month LIBOR	7/3/2014	75,000,000	(555,130)
					\$ (2,882,420)

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## NOTE 1 ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

**Organization.** Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund (the Fund ) was organized as a Delaware statutory trust on December 31, 2003 and is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the 1940 Act ) as a diversified, closed-end management investment company. The Fund commenced operations on March 26, 2004.

The Fund's investment objective is to provide total return through a combination of capital appreciation and current income. Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests primarily in common and preferred stocks and income producing securities such as investment grade and below grade debt securities.

**Fund Valuation.** The valuation of the Fund's portfolio securities is in accordance with policies and procedures adopted by and under the ultimate supervision of the board of trustees.

Fund securities that are traded on U.S. securities exchanges, except option securities, are valued at the last current reported sales price at the time the Fund determines its net asset value ( NAV ). Securities traded in the over-the-counter market and quoted on The NASDAQ Stock Market are valued at the NASDAQ Official Closing Price, as determined by NASDAQ, or lacking a NASDAQ Official Closing Price, the last current reported sale price on NASDAQ at the time a Fund determines its NAV.

When a most recent last sale or closing price is not available, equity securities, other than option securities, that are traded on a U.S. securities exchange and other securities traded in the over-the-counter market are valued at the mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations in accordance with guidelines adopted by the board of trustees. Each option security traded on a U.S. securities exchange is valued at the mid-point of the consolidated bid/ask quote for the option security, also in accordance with guidelines adopted by the board of trustees. Each over-the-counter option that is not traded through the Options Clearing Corporation is valued based on a quotation provided by the counterparty to such option under the ultimate supervision of the board of trustees.

Fixed income securities are generally traded in the over-the-counter market and are valued by independent pricing services or by dealers who make markets in such securities. Valuations of fixed income securities consider yield or price of bonds of comparable quality, coupon rate, maturity, type of issue, trading characteristics and other market data and do not rely exclusively upon exchange or over-the-counter prices.

Trading on European and Far Eastern exchanges and over-the-counter markets is typically completed at various times before the close of business on each day on which the New York Stock Exchange ( NYSE ) is open. Each security trading on these exchanges or over-the-counter markets may be valued utilizing a systematic fair valuation model provided by an independent pricing service approved by the board of trustees. The valuation of each security that meets certain criteria in relation to the valuation model is systematically adjusted to reflect the impact of movement in the U.S. market after the foreign markets close. Securities that do not meet the criteria, or that are principally traded in other foreign markets, are valued as of the last reported sale price at the time the Fund determines its NAV, or when reliable market prices or quotations are not readily available, at the mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations as of the close of the appropriate exchange or other designated time. Trading of foreign securities may not take place on every NYSE business day. In addition, trading may take place in various foreign markets on Saturdays or on other days when the NYSE is not open and on which the Fund's NAV is not calculated.

If the pricing committee determines that the valuation of a security in accordance with the methods described above is not reflective of a fair value for such security, the security is valued at a fair value by the pricing committee, under the ultimate supervision of the board of trustees, following the guidelines and/or procedures adopted by the board of

trustees.

The Fund also may use fair value pricing, pursuant to guidelines adopted by the board of trustees and under the ultimate supervision of the board of trustees, if trading in the security is halted or if the value of a security it holds is materially affected by events occurring before the Fund's pricing time but after the close of the primary market or exchange on which the security is listed. Those procedures may utilize valuations furnished by pricing services approved by the board of trustees, which may be based on market transactions for comparable securities and various relationships between securities that are generally recognized by institutional traders, a computerized matrix system, or appraisals derived from information concerning the securities or similar securities received from recognized dealers in those securities.

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When fair value pricing of securities is employed, the prices of securities used by the Fund to calculate its NAV may differ from market quotations or official closing prices. In light of the judgment involved in fair valuations, there can be no assurance that a fair value assigned to a particular security is accurate.

**Investment Transactions.** Investment transactions are recorded on a trade date basis as of July 31, 2009.

**Foreign Currency Translation.** Values of investments and other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars using a rate quoted by a major bank or dealer in the particular currency market, as reported by a recognized quotation dissemination service.

**Option Transactions.** For hedging and investment purposes, the Fund may purchase or write (sell) put and call options. One of the risks associated with purchasing an option is that the Fund pays a premium whether or not the option is exercised. Additionally, the Fund bears the risk of loss of premium and change in value should the counterparty not perform under the contract. The Fund as writer of an option bears the market risk of an unfavorable change in the price of the security underlying the written option.

**Forward Foreign Currency Contracts.** The Fund may engage in portfolio hedging with respect to changes in currency exchange rates by entering into foreign currency contracts to purchase or sell currencies. A forward foreign currency contract is a commitment to purchase or sell a foreign currency at a future date at a negotiated forward rate. Risks associated with such contracts include, among other things, movement in the value of the foreign currency relative to the U.S. dollar and the ability of the counterparty to perform. The net unrealized gain, if any, represents the credit risk to the Fund on a forward foreign currency contract. The contracts are valued daily at forward foreign exchange rates. There were no open forward currency contracts at July 31, 2009.

## NOTE 2 INVESTMENTS

The following information is presented on a federal income tax basis as of July 31, 2009. Differences between the cost basis under U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and federal income tax purposes are primarily due to temporary differences.

The cost basis of investments for federal income tax purposes at July 31, 2009 was as follows:

Cost basis of investments	\$ 2,634,331,014
Gross unrealized appreciation	24,337,869
Gross unrealized depreciation	(746,025,742)
Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	\$ (721,687,873)

## NOTE 3 BORROWINGS

The Fund has entered into a Committed Facility Agreement (the Agreement) with BNP Paribas Prime Brokerage, Inc. (as successor to Bank of America N.A.) that allows the Fund to borrow up to an initial limit of \$1,080,000,000. Borrowings under the Agreement are secured by assets of the Fund. Interest is charged at a quarterly LIBOR (London Inter-bank Offered Rate) plus .95% on the amount borrowed and .85% on the undrawn balance. The Fund also paid a one time Arrangement fee of .25% of the total borrowing limit. For the period ended July 31, 2009, the average borrowings under the Agreement and the average interest rate were \$367,961,538 and 2.16%, respectively. As of

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July 31, 2009, the amount of such outstanding borrowings is \$539,000,000. The interest rate applicable to the borrowings on July 31, 2009 was 1.43%.

BNP Paribas Prime Brokerage, Inc ( BNP ) has the ability to reregister the collateral in its own name or in another name other than the Fund to pledge, re-pledge, sell, lend or otherwise transfer or use the collateral ( Hypothecated Securities ) with all attendant rights of ownership. The Fund can recall any Hypothecated Securities and BNP shall, to the extent commercially possible, return such security or equivalent security to the fund no later than three business days after such request. If the Fund recalls a Hypothecated Security in connection with a sales transaction and BNP fails to return the Hypothecated Securities or equivalent securities in a timely fashion, BNP shall remain liable to the Fund's custodian for the ultimate delivery of such Hypothecated Securities or equivalent securities to the executing broker for the sales transaction and for any buy-in costs that the executing broker may impose with respect to the failure to deliver. In such instance, the

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Fund shall also have the right to apply and set off an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the then-current fair market value of such hypothecated securities against any amounts owed to BNP under the Committed Facility Agreement.

#### **NOTE 4 INTEREST RATE SWAPS**

The Fund may engage in interest rate swaps primarily to manage duration and yield curve risk, or as alternatives to direct investments. An interest rate swap is a contract that involves the exchange of one type of interest rate for another type of interest rate. Three main types of interest rate swaps are coupon swaps (fixed rate to floating rate in the same currency); basis swaps (one floating rate index to another floating rate index in the same currency); and cross-currency interest rate swaps (fixed rate in one currency to floating rate in another). In the case of a coupon swap, the Fund may agree with a counterparty that the Fund will pay a fixed rate (multiplied by a notional amount) while the counterparty will pay a floating rate multiplied by the same notional amount. If interest rates rise, resulting in a diminution in the value of the Fund's portfolio, the Fund would receive payments under the swap that would offset, in whole or in part, such diminution in value; if interest rates fall, the Fund would likely lose money on the swap transaction. Swap agreements are stated at fair value. Notional principal amounts are used to express the extent of involvement in these transactions, but the amounts potentially subject to credit risk are much smaller.

#### **NOTE 5 STRUCTURED EQUITY-LINKED SECURITIES**

The Fund may also invest in structured equity-linked securities created by third parties, typically investment banks. Structured equity linked securities created by such parties may be designed to simulate the characteristics of traditional convertible securities or may be designed to alter or emphasize a particular feature. Traditional convertible securities typically offer stable cash flows with the ability to participate in capital appreciation of the underlying common stock. Because traditional convertible securities are exercisable at the option of the holder, the holder is protected against downside risk. Structured equity-linked securities may alter these characteristics by offering enhanced yields in exchange for reduced capital appreciation or less downside protection, or any combination of these features. Structured equity-linked instruments may include structured notes, equity-linked notes, mandatory convertibles and combinations of securities and instruments, such as a debt instrument combined with a forward contract.

#### **NOTE 6 SYNTHETIC CONVERTIBLE INSTRUMENTS**

The Fund may establish a synthetic convertible instrument by combining separate securities that possess the economic characteristics similar to a convertible security, i.e., fixed-income securities (fixed-income component), which may be a convertible or non-convertible security and the right to acquire equity securities (convertible component). The fixed-income component is achieved by investing in fixed income securities such as bonds, preferred stocks and money market instruments. The convertible component is achieved by investing in warrants or options to buy common stock at a certain exercise price, or options on a stock index. In establishing a synthetic instrument, the Fund may pool a basket of fixed-income securities and a basket of warrants or purchased options that produce the economic characteristics similar to a convertible security. Within each basket of fixed-income securities and warrants or options, different companies may issue the fixed-income and convertible components, which may be purchased separately and at different times.

The Fund may also purchase synthetic securities created by other parties, typically investment banks, including convertible structured notes. Convertible structured notes are fixed-income debentures linked to equity. Convertible structured notes have the attributes of a convertible security; however, the investment bank that issued the convertible note assumes the credit risk associated with the investment, rather than the issuer of the underlying common stock into which the note is convertible. Purchasing synthetic convertible securities may offer more flexibility than purchasing a



convertible security.

**NOTE 7 VALUATIONS**

Effective November 1, 2008, the Fund has adopted the provisions of the Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 157, Fair Value Measurements ( SFAS 157 ). SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosures about fair value measurements.

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Various inputs are used to determine the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are categorized into three broad levels as follows:

Level 1 holdings use inputs from unadjusted quoted prices from active markets (including securities actively traded on a securities exchange).

Level 2 holdings reflect inputs other than quoted prices, but use observable market data (including quoted prices of similar securities, interest rates, credit risk, etc.).

Level 3 holdings are valued using unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own judgments about assumptions market participants would use in determining fair value).

The following is a summary of the inputs used in valuing the Fund's holdings at fair value:

<b>Valuation Inputs</b>	<b>Value of Investment Securities</b>	<b>Other Financial Instruments</b>
Level 1 Quoted Prices		
Common Stocks	\$ 924,759,443	\$
Convertible Preferred Stocks	139,516,900	
Synthetic Convertible Securities (Purchased Options)	1,412,025	
U.S. Government and Agency Securities	3,230,627	
Written Options		(35,100,500)
Short Term Investments	10,507,686	
Level 2 Other significant observable inputs		
Common Stocks	36,009,716	
Convertible Bonds	206,528,652	
Corporate Bonds	494,059,997	
Convertible Preferred Stocks	46,288,211	
Synthetic Convertible Securities (Corporate Bonds)	8,006,794	
Structured Equity-Linked Securities	42,323,090	
Interest Rate Swaps		(2,882,420)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,912,643,141</b>	<b>\$ (37,982,920)</b>

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ITEM 2. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

a) The registrant's principal executive officer and principal financial officer have evaluated the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures within 90 days of this filing and have concluded that the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures were effective, as of that date, in ensuring that information required to be disclosed by the registrant in this Form N-Q was recorded, processed, summarized, and reported timely.

b) There were no changes in the registrant's internal controls over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the Investment Company Act of 1940) that occurred during the registrant's last fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM 3. EXHIBITS.

(a) Certification of Principal Executive Officer.

(b) Certification of Principal Financial Officer.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund

By: /s/ John P.  
Calamos, Sr.

Name: John P. Calamos,  
Sr.

Title: Principal  
Executive  
Officer

Date: September 24,  
2009

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund

By: /s/ John P.  
Calamos, Sr.

Name: John P. Calamos,  
Sr.

Title: Principal  
Executive  
Officer

Date: September 24,  
2009

By: /s/ Nimish S.  
Bhatt

Name: Nimish S. Bhatt  
Title: Principal  
Financial Officer

Date: September 24,  
2009