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 | FORM 5 |
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UNITED STATES
 SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20549

[] Check box if
 no longer subject to Section 16.
 Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may
 continue. See Instruction 1(b).
 ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP
 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(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940
 [] Form 3 Holdings Reported
 [] Form 4 Transactions Reported

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*

Brooks, William R.

 (Last) (First) (Middle)
 c/o Sonic Automotive, Inc.
 5401 E. Independence Blvd.

 (Street)
 Charlotte, NC 28212

 (City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Sonic Automotive, Inc. (SAH)

3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity
 (Voluntary) -----

4. Statement for Month/Year 12/01 -----

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year) -----

6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
 Director Officer 10% Owner Other
 (give title below) (specify below)

7. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (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
 <TABLE>
 <CAPTION>

1. Title of Security 7. Nature of In- direct Bene- ficial Indirect ship 4) (Instr. 4)	2. Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/ Year)	3. Trans- action Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Amount (D) Price	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at the end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Owner- ship Form: Direct (D) or (I) (Instr.)
<S> <C>	<C>	<C>	<C> <C> <C>	<C>	<C>

</TABLE>

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see instruction 4(b) (v).

Table II--Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) Securities	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Acquired (A) or Disposed of (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)
(D)				(A)
(D)				(A)
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
<C>				
Options to purchase	\$7.80	3/30/01	A	10,000

</TABLE>

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date of In- direct Beneficial	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned	10. Ownership
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Owner- ship Date (Instr. 4) Exer- cisable	Expira- tion Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	(Instr. 5)	fi- cially	Owned at End of Year (Instr. 4)	Direct (D) or Indi- rect (1) (Instr. 4)
<S> <C>		<C>	<C>	<C>		<C>	<C>
9/30/01	3/30/11	Class A common stock	10,000			55,000	D

</TABLE>

Explanation of Responses:

/s/ William R. Brooks February 5, 2002

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.