# FORM 4

#### [ ] Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

#### 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(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 OMB APPROVAL

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| 1. Name and Address of Capo, Thomas P. | Reporting Persor | n*       | Issuer Name     and Ticker or Trading Symbol                      | 4. Statement for (Month/Day/Year     | Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer     (Check all applicable)          |  |  |  |  |
|--|------------------|----------|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| (Last) 443 West Merrill Street         | (First)          | (Middle) | Sonic Automotive, Inc.  | 03/31/2003                           | ∑ Director _ 10% Owner<br>_ Officer (give title below) _ Other (specify below)    |  |  |  |  |
| Birmingham, MI 480                     | (Street)         |          | 3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity | 5. If Amendment,<br>Date of Original | Description   |  |  |  |  |
| (City)                                 | (State)          | (Zip)    | (voluntary)   | (Month/Day/Year)                     | 7. 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 Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned |   |   |                                      |   |  |     |            |   |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|-----|------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| 1. Title of Security<br>(Instr. 3)   | 2.Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3.<br>Transacti<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8 |   | 4. Securities Acqu<br>(D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4, and | ` ' | isposed Of | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned | 6. Owner-<br>ship<br>Form:<br>Direct (D) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership |  |  |
|  |   |   | Code                                 | V | Amount   | A/D | Price      | Following Reported Transaction(s)  (Instr. 3 and 4) | or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4)         | (Instr. 4)  |  |  |

|  | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |            |  |  |   |   |   |   |            |   |                                  |   |   |  |   |
|--|--|------------|--|--|---|---|---|---|------------|---|----------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr.<br>3) | Derivative Security (Instr. Sion or Exercise Price of  |            | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/ Day/ Year) | 4.<br>Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr.8) |   | 5. Number of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired (A)<br>or Disposed Of<br>(D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and<br>5) |   | 6. Date Exercisable(DE)<br>and<br>Expiration Date(ED)<br>(Month/Day/Year) |            | 7. Title and Amount of<br>Underlying Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |                                  | 8. Price<br>of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr.5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr.4) | 10. Owner- ship Form of Deriv- ative Securities: Direct (D) or | 11. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr.4) |
|  |  |            |  | Code                                   | V | A   | D | DE  | ED         | Title   | Amount or<br>Number<br>of Shares |   |   | Indirect (I) (Instr.4)   |   |
| Options<br>to<br>Purchase                              | \$14.40  | 03/31/2003 |  | A                                      |   | 10,000  |   | 09/30/2003  | 03/31/2013 | Class A<br>Common<br>Stock  | 10,000                           |   | 10,000  | D  |   |

## Explanation of Responses:

By: Date:

/s/ Thomas P. Capo

04/21/2003

Thomas P. Capo

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(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).

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.