

# FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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

### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <b>SMITH O BRUTON</b>			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <b>SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH]</b>			5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) <b>Chairman and CEO</b>		
(Last) (First) (Middle) <b>C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC., 5401 EAST INDEPENDENCE BOULEVARD</b>			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <b>04/04/2008</b>					
(Street) <b>CHARLOTTE, NC 28212</b>			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		
(City) (State) (Zip)			<b>Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned</b>					

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)				Price
Class A Common Stock	04/04/2008 <sup>(1)</sup>		M		30,000	A	\$ 9.19	150,150	D	
Class A Common Stock	04/04/2008 <sup>(1)</sup>		S		21,000	D	\$ 21.2492 <sup>(2)</sup>	129,150	D	
Class A Common Stock	04/07/2008 <sup>(1)</sup>		M		30,000	A	\$ 9.19	159,150	D	
Class A Common Stock	04/07/2008 <sup>(1)</sup>		S		21,000	D	\$ 21.1453 <sup>(3)</sup>	138,150	D	
Class A Common Stock	04/08/2008 <sup>(1)</sup>		M		30,000	A	\$ 9.19	168,150	D	
Class A Common Stock	04/08/2008 <sup>(1)</sup>		S		21,000	D	\$ 21.0739 <sup>(4)</sup>	147,150	D	

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

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	V		Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						Title
Options to Purchase	\$ 9.19	04/04/2008 <sup>(1)</sup>		M		30,000	04/06/1999	10/06/2008	Class A Common Stock	30,000	\$ 0	80,000	D	
Options to Purchase	\$ 9.19	04/07/2008 <sup>(1)</sup>		M		30,000	04/06/1999	10/06/2008	Class A Common Stock	30,000	\$ 0	50,000	D	
Options to Purchase	\$ 9.19	04/08/2008 <sup>(1)</sup>		M		30,000	04/06/1999	10/06/2008	Class A Common Stock	30,000	\$ 0	20,000	D	

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships

	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
SMITH O BRUTON C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC. 5401 EAST INDEPENDENCE BOULEVARD CHARLOTTE, NC 28212	X	X	Chairman and CEO	

## Signatures

/s/ O. Bruton Smith	04/08/2008
<small>**Signature of Reporting Person</small>	<small>Date</small>

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* 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).
- (1) Options exercised and shares sold pursuant to previously announced 10b5-1 trading plan.
- (2) Shares were sold at prices ranging from \$21.03 to \$21.50.
- (3) Shares were sold at prices ranging from \$21.00 to \$21.29.
- (4) Shares were sold at prices ranging from \$21.00 to \$21.19.

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

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