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

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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

1 &			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH]					5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X_Director X_10% Owner				
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/03/2017				X Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) Executive Chairman							
	4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)					6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person						
(Zip)	T	able I - N	on-De	rivative	Securities	Acqui	red, Dispe	osed of, or l	Beneficially	Owned		
2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	any	Code (Instr. 8)		n 4. Securities Acquired			Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)			Ownership of Form:	Beneficial	
(Month/Day/Year)			V	Amoun	(A) or at (D)	Price	(Instr. 3 a	and 4)		or Indirect (Instr. 4)		
05/03/2017		P		19,27	2 I A		676,609)		D		
Table II -	Derivative Securit	ies Acqu	the	form di	splays a d	curren	tly valid	OMB con				
	(e.g., puts, calls, w	arrants,	option	s, conver	tible secur	ities)			1			
Date Execution Da (Month/Day/Year) any	ate, if Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	of Number of		and Expiration Date		Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	Ownersl Form of Derivati Security Direct (I or Indire	Beneficia Ownersh (Instr. 4)	
		4, and 5)					Amount					
	(Middle) E, INC., 5401 DULEVARD (Zip) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) 05/03/2017 e for each class of secution Table II - tion ay/Year) 3A. Deemed Execution D any	(Middle) E, INC., 5401 OULEVARD 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) 24. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) 25. Trable II - Derivative Securit (e.g., puts, calls, was tion any (Month/Day/Year) 36. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) 47. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	SONIC AUTOMOTIVE (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transact (05/03/2017) 4. If Amendment, Date Orion (Month/Day/Year) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) 2. Transaction Date (Instr. 8) Code (Instr. 8) Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, of Day/Year) 3. Transaction Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, of Derivative Securities (A) or Disposed	SONIC AUTOMOTIVE IN (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Mo5/03/2017 4. If Amendment, Date Original In (Zip) Table I - Non-Determine (Month/Day/Year) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) (Month/Day/Year) 2. Transaction Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) Per for each class of securities beneficially owned directly of the content of the con	SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SA] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Da) 05/03/2017 Table I - Non-Derivative 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) 2. Transaction Date (A) or Interest and Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 2. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 2. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 2. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 2. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 6. Date Execution Date Code (Month/Day (Month/	SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/03/2017 Table I - Non-Derivative Securities 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of, or Benevative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Benevative Securities Acquired (Month/Day/Year) 3. Deemed Execution Date, if Transaction Code (Instr. 8) 2. Transaction (A) or Disposed of, or Benevative Securities Code (Month/Day/Year) 3. Transaction (A) or Disposed (Month/Day/Year)	SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/03/2017 Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 8) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) (Month/Day/Year) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) (Month/Day/Year) 05/03/2017 P 19,273 A \$ 18.55 2 for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficiall (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficiall (a) or Under (Instr. 8) Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficiall (a) or Under (Instr. 8) Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficiall (a) or Under (Instr. 8) Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficiall (a) or Under (Instr. 8) Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficiall (a) or Under (Instr. 8) Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficiall (a) or Under (Instr. 8) Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficiall (a) or Disposed (Instr. 8)	SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/03/2017 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) 2. Transaction Date (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 3 a (Instr. 3 a	SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH] X Director X Officer (give title between time beneficially owned directly or indirectly.	SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH] SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH] Inc., 5401 Solicetor Solicet (give title below) Solicet (give title below) Executive Chain Solicet (give title below) Solicet (give title below) Executive Chain Solicet (give title below) Solicet (give title below) Executive Chain Solicet (give title below) Solicet (give title below) Solicet (give title below) Executive Chain Solicet (give title below) Solicet (give title below) Solicet (give title below) Solicet (give title below) Executive Chain Solicet (give title below) Solice	SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH] SONIC [

	Relationships					
Reporting Owner Name / Address	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
SMITH O BRUTON C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC. 5401 EAST INDEPENDENCE BOULEVARD CHARLOTTE, NC 28212	X	X	Executive Chairman			

Signatures

/s/ O. Bruton Smith	05/05/2017
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date

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).

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.