

FORM 5

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

OMB APPROVAL	
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ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

- Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).
- Form 3 Holdings Reported
- Form 4 Transactions Reported

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. Name and Address of Reporting Person* SMITH BRYAN SCOTT			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH]			5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) _____ Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner _____ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2019					
C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC., 4401 COLWICK ROAD			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)			6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (check applicable line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form Filed by One Reporting Person _____ Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person		
(Street)								
CHARLOTTE, NC 28211								
(City)			(State)			(Zip)		

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

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 at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Class A Common Stock	02/20/2019		D4	50,889 <u>(1)</u>	D	\$ 0	345,395 <u>(2)</u>	D	
Class A Common Stock	02/20/2019		F4	12,547 <u>(3)</u>	D	\$ 15.94	345,395 <u>(2)</u>	D	

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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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 at End of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					
					(A) (D)							

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
SMITH BRYAN SCOTT C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC. 4401 COLWICK ROAD CHARLOTTE, NC 28211		X		

Signatures

/s/ B. Scott Smith		01/21/2020
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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) Represents the forfeiture of restricted stock units granted pursuant to the Sonic Automotive, Inc. 2012 Stock Incentive Plan on February 20, 2019 based on the achievement of performance criteria for fiscal year 2018.
- (2) Due to an administrative error, transactions which occurred after Mr. Scott ceased to be an officer and director of Sonic Automotive, Inc. were not previously reported.
- (3) Represents shares delivered by the reporting person to Sonic Automotive, Inc. to satisfy withholding tax obligations due upon vesting of restricted stock units.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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.