

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

OMB Number: 3236-0362
Expires: December 31, 2001
Estimated average burden hours per response.....1.0

[] Form 3 Holdings Reported
[] Form 4 Transactions Reported

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

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*
Rachor Jeffrey C.

(Last) (First) (Middle)

5915 Brainerd Road

(Street)

Chattanooga TN 37421

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Sonic Automotive, Inc. ("SAH")

3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)

4. Statement for Month/Year

12/99

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

6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)

[X] Director [] 10% Owner

[X] Officer (give title below)

[] Other (specify below)

Executive Vice President of Retail Operations

7. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

[X] Form Filed by One Reporting Person

[] Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table 1 -- Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

Table with 6 columns: 1. Title of Security, 2. Transaction Date, 3. Transaction Code, 4. Securities Acquired or Disposed of, 5. Amount of Securities, 6. Ownership Form. Includes sub-headers for Direct/Indirect, Beneficial, and Ownership details.

<CAPTION>

8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
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174,833

D

</TABLE>

Explanation of Responses:

(i) These options to purchase 100,000 shares of Class A Common Stock were initially reported on a Form 3 filed on behalf of Mr. Rachor on September 13, 1999 (the "September 1999 Form 3"). However, in the September 1999 Form 3, the 100,000 options were inadvertently reported as vesting in three (3) equal annual installments beginning May 5, 2000. The intention of this Form 5 is to clarify that these options will in fact vest in five (5) equal annual installments beginning May 5, 2000 rather than in three equal annual installments as previously reported. This Form 5 is not intended to reflect a grant of any additional options to Mr. Rachor.

/s/ Jeffrey C. Rachor

2/10/00

**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.

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