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 / OMB APPROVAL /  
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 / Expires: December 31, 2001 /  
 / Estimated average burden /  
 / hours per response..... 1.0 /  
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 | FORM 5 |  
 +-----+  
 UNITED STATES  
 SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

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

Form 3 Holdings Reported

Form 4 Transactions Reported

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person\*

Rachor, Jeffrey C.  
 -----  
 (Last) (First) (Middle)  
 c/o Sonic Automotive, Inc.  
 5401 E. Independence Blvd.  
 -----  
 (Street)  
 Charlotte, NC 28212  
 -----  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Sonic Automotive, Inc. (SAH)  
 -----

3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity  
 (Voluntary) -----

4. Statement for Month/Year 12/00  
 -----

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

6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  
 Director  Officer  10% Owner  Other  
 (give title below) (specify below)  
 Executive VP of Retail Operations

7. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (check applicable line)  
 Form Filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person

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

<TABLE>  
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1. Title of Security 7. Nature of In- direct Bene- ficial	2. Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/ Year)	3. Trans- action Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at the end of Issuer's	6. Owner- ship Form: Direct (D) or
--------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------

Indirect ship	Owner-	(A) or (D)	Price	Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	(I) (Instr.
4)	(Instr. 4)				
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
<C>					

</TABLE>  
 \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see instruction 4(b)(v).

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) Securities	2. Con- version or Exercise Price of Deriv- ative Security	3. Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/ Year)	4. Transac- tion Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Deriv- ative Acquired (A) or Disposed of (Instr. 3, 4, (A)
(D) and 5)				
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
<C>				
Options to purchase	\$11.19	4/28/00	A	50,000
Options to purchase	\$7.94	10/5/00	A	40,000

</TABLE>

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6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Securities (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership of Derivative Securities: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)
--------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<S>                    <C>                    <C>                    <C>                    <C>                    <C>

(1)	4/28/10	Class A Common Stock	50,000		D
4/5/01	10/5/10	Class A Common Stock	40,000	264,836	D

</TABLE>

Explanation of Responses:

(1) The options to purchase 50,000 shares of Class A Common Stock shown above will vest in three (3) equal annual installments beginning April 28, 2001.

/s/ Jefferey C. Rachor

1-31-01

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\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

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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.