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 / OMB APPROVAL /
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 | FORM 4 |
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U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

[] 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
 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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*

Wright Theodore M.

 (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 6/01

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

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

Director Officer (give title below) 10% Owner Other (specify below)
 Vice President & CFO

7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)

Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

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

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

1. Title 7. Nature of In- Security direct (Instr. 3) Bene- ficial Owner-	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 End of Month	6. Owner- ship Form: Direct (D) or Indirect
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ship	Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)	(I) (Instr.
4) (Instr. 4)							
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C> <C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
<C>							
Class A Common Stock	6/22/01	M	40,000	A	\$6.00	43,475	D

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. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Acquired (A) or Disposed of (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)
(D)				
Options to purchase 40,000	\$6.00	6/22/01	M	

</TABLE>

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

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

11. Nature of Indirect derivative Securities Owned beneficially at (Instr. 4) Month(1) (Instr. 4)	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 Month (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security Beneficially Owned at End of Month
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<S> <C> <C> <C> <C> <C> <C> <C>

Options to purchase (1) 11/17/07 Class A 40,000 416,376 D
Common Stock

</TABLE>

Explanation of Responses:

(1) Of the options to purchase a total of 40,000 shares of Sonic's Class A Common Stock shown for Mr. Wright in the table above, options to purchase 13,333 shares became exercisable on November 17, 1998, options to purchase 13,334 shares became exercisable on November 17, 1999, and options to purchase 13,333 shares became exercisable on November 17, 2000.

/s/ Theodore M. Wright	6/29/01
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**Signature of Reporting Person	Date

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

* If this 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 provided is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.