

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104
Expires: September 30, 1998
Estimated average burden
hours per response 0.5

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>
<S>

(Print or Type Responses)	<C>	<C>	<C>
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*	2. Date of Event Re-quiring statement (Month/Day/Year)	4. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	
Sonic Financial Corporation	11/10/97	Sonic Automotive, Inc.-- SAH	
-----	-----	-----	
(Last) (First) (Middle)		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer	6. If Amendment, Original
Date of		(Check all applicable)	-----
(Month/Day/Year)		Director X 10% Owner	
5401 E. Independence Blvd.	3. IRS or Social Se-	Officer (give ___Other	7. Individual or
-----	curity Number of Reporting Person	title below) (specify below)	Filing (Check
(Street)	(Voluntary)		X Form filled
Joint/Group			-----
Applicable Line)			Person
Charlotte, NC 28212			___ Form filled
by One Reporting			Reporting

(City) (State) (Zip)			
by More than One			
Person			

</TABLE>

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

Table I - Non Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>
1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Inst.4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr.5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
-----	-----	-----	-----
Class B Common Stock	4,440,625 shares	D	
-----	-----	-----	-----

</TABLE>

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.
* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).

(Over)
SEC 1473 (9-96)

FORM 3 (continued)

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

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>
<S>

<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
1. Title of Derivative Security of Indirect	2. Date Exer-	3. Title and amount of Securities	4. Conver-	5. Owner-	6. Nature

(Instr. 4)
Beneficial Ownership

cisable and Underlying Derivative Security

sion or ship

Expiration (Instr. 4)

Exercise Form of

Date
(Month/Day/
Year)

Price of
Deri-
vative
Security

Deriv-
ative
Security:

Date	Expira- tion Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
------	-------------------------	-------	-------------------------------------

Direct
(D) or
Indirect
(I)
(Instr.5)

NONE

</TABLE>

Explanation of Responses:

/s/ William R. Brooks	Nov. 10, 1997
-----	-----
** Signature of Reporting Person	Date
William R. Brooks Vice President	

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of acts 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 person 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.