

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

OMB APPROVAL  
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Expires: September 30, 1998  
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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 Requiring statement (Month/Day/Year)	4. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	
Brooks,	William	R.	11/10/97	Sonic Automotive, Inc.-- SAH	
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(Last)	(First)	(Middle)		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer	6. If Amendment, Original
Date of				(Check all applicable)	-----
(Month/Day/Year)				X Director	10% Owner
5401 E. Independence Blvd.			3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person	Officer (give	Other
-----				7. Individual or Filing (Check	
(Street)			(Voluntary)	title below) (specify below)	
Joint/Group				X Form filled	
Applicable Line)				-----	
Charlotte, NC 28212				Person	
by One Reporting				Form filled	
-----				Reporting	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)			
by More than One					
Person					

</TABLE>

<TABLE>  
<CAPTION>

Table I - Non Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

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<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)
-----			
None			
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</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 (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and	3. Title and Amount of Underlying Derivative Security	4. Conversion or	5. Ownership	6. Nature of

Beneficial Ownership

(Instr. 4)

Expiration (Instr. 4)

Exercise Form of

Date (Month/Day/Year)

Price of Derivative Security

Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr.5)

Date Expiration Title Amount or Number of Shares

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NONE
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</TABLE>

Explanation of Responses:

/s/ William R. Brooks Nov. 10, 1997
Signature of Reporting Person Date

\*\* 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.