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

## U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

1. Name and Address of Research, Bryan Scott  (Last) (Fin	eporting Persor	OMB APPROVAL  OMB Number: 3235-0287 Expires: September 30, 1998 Estimated average burden hours per response0.5
Smith, Bryan Scott	eporting Persor	OMB Number: 3235-0287 Expires: September 30, 1998 Estimated average burden hours per response0.5
Smith, Bryan Scott	porting Persor	
Smith, Bryan Scott	1	
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		(Middle)
5401 E. Independence B		, , , ,
	reet)	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)
2. Issuer Name and Ticker	or Trading Sy	mbol
Sonic Automotive, Inc.	(SAH)	
3. IRS or Social Security	Number of Rep	orting Person (Voluntary)
4. Statement for Month/Ye	ear	
12/97		
5. If Amendment, Date of	Original (Mont	h/Year)
6. Relationship of Report (Check all applicable)		Issuer
10% Owner X Director		
X Officer (give tit	le below)	
Other (specify be	elow)	
President		
7. Individual or Joint/Gr X Form filed by One		
Form filed by More	than One Repor	ting Person

TARLE	INon-Derivative	Securities	Acquired	Diennead	οf	or	Beneficially Owned

1.	2.	3			4.		5.	6.	
	Trans- action	Trans			ies Acquin		Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at	Owner- ship Form: Direct	Natu
f	Date	Code		(Instr.	3, 4 and	5)	End of	(D) or	
ndirect itle of eneficial	(Month/	(Inst	r. 8)				Month	Indirect	
Security	Day/			Amount	(A) or	Price	(Instr.	(I)	
wnership Instr. 3) Instr. 4)	Year)	Code	V		(D)		3 and 4)	(Instr. 4)	
 S>	<c></c>	<c></c>	<c></c>	<c></c>	<c></c>	<c></c>		<c></c>	<c></c>
lass A Common Stock	12/19/97	Р		1,000	А	\$9.5625	-0-	D	
lass A Common Stock	12/19/97	S		1,000	D	\$9.5625	-0-	D	
/TABLE> eminder: Report on a			ch clas	ss of securi	ties benef	ficially			
/TABLE> eminder: Report on a	separate line ly or indirec		ch clas	ss of securi	ties benei	ficially			
/TABLE> eminder: Report on a			ch cla	ss of securi	ties benei	ficially (Over)			
/TABLE> eminder: Report on a			ch cla:	ss of securi	ties benei				

1. 7. 8. 9. 3. 4. 5. 10. \_\_\_\_\_ \_ ----- ---- ----- ------Title and Ownership Number of Date Exer-Amount of Form of Derivative cisable and Underlying Number of Deriv-Securities Securities Expiration Price Derivative ative (Instr. 3 of Securities Trans- Acquired (A) Date (Month/ Conver-Security:

	sion or	Trans-	acti	on	or D	isposed	Day/Ye	ar)	and	4)	Deriv-	Benefi-	
Direct	Everaine	antion	Codo		of /1	D.)					2+12	ai aller	(D)
or Natur	Exercise e of	action	Code		of (	ע)					ative	cially	(D)
	Price of	Date	(Ins	tr.	(Ins	tr. 3,	Date			Amount	Secur-	Owned at	
Derivative Beneficial		(Month/	8)		4 aı	nd 5)	Exer-	Expir-		or Num-	ity	End of	(I)
Security (Instr. C	ative wnership	Day/					cis-	ation		ber of	(Instr.	Month	
(Instr. 3) (Instr. 4)	-						able	Date		Shares		(Instr. 4)	,
	<c></c>	<c></c>								<c></c>		<c></c>	<c></c>
No transact during this	ions eriod.												

  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |Explanation of Responses:

/s/ Bryan Scott Smith	1/9/98
** 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.

Potential persons 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.

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