FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL
OMB Number: 3235-0287
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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 OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Name and Address of Reporting Person* BELK WILLIAM I				2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH]								5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) _X_Director Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)				
(Last) (First) (Middle) 6100 FAIRVIEW ROAD, #640				3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 04/22/2005												
(Street) CHARLOTTE, NC 28210				4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)						6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person						
(City	')	(State)	(Zip)		1	Table I	- Nor	ı-Der	ivative :	Securities	Acqui	ired, Disp	osed of, or l	Beneficially	Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)				if Coo	(Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acqui (A) or Disposed of (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		of (D)	(D) Beneficially Ow Reported Transa		ollowing	Ownership o Form:	Beneficial		
				(Month/Day/Year			Code	V	Amour	(A) or (D)	Price	(Instr. 3 a	3 and 4)		Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Ownership (Instr. 4)
Class A	Common S	tock	04/22/2005				A		2,745	A	(1)	15,745			D	
Class A	Common S	ltock										6,000			I	By children
			Table II - l				equire	conta the fe	ained i orm dis	n this for splays a o	m are curre eficial	not requesting ntly valid	OMB con	spond unle	ss	1474 (9-02)
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/	n 3A. Deemed Execution Da	Code	saction	5. Num of	ber vative rities pired or osed 0) :. 3,	6. Da and I (Mon	ate Exer Expirationth/Day	cisable on Date	7. Ti Amo Und Secu (Inst 4)	Amount or Number of		9. Number Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4)	Owners Form of Derivat Security Direct (or Indir	Beneficia Ownershi (Instr. 4) D) ect

Reporting Owners

	Relationships					
Reporting Owner Name / Address	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
BELK WILLIAM I 6100 FAIRVIEW ROAD, #640 CHARLOTTE, NC 28210	X					

Signatures

/s/ William I. Belk	04/21/2005
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the 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).
- (1) Restricted stock granted pursuant to the Sonic Automotive, Inc. 2005 Formula Restricted Stock Plan for Non-Employee Directors.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space 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.