FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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

(Print or Type Responses)

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* SMITH BRYAN SCOTT				2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH]						5	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X Director 10% Owner					
(Last) (First) (Middle) C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC., 5401 EAST INDEPENDENCE BLVD.				3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/13/2006							X_ Director10% Owner X_ Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) Vice Chairman and CSO					
(Street)				4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)							6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
CHARLOTTE, NC 28212 (City) (State) (Zip)			(Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned												
(Instr. 3) Da		2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		3. Transa Code (Instr. 8)	action	4. Securities Acquired (A or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		nired (A)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		Beneficially 6 ced F	ownership orm: Direct (D) r Indirect	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
Class A (Common S	tock	03/13/2006(1)				Code		Amount 20,000	+ ` _ +	Price 6	40,875		I	nstr. 4)	
			03/13/2006(1)				S		20,000		\$ 27.04			I		
Class A (Common S	tock	03/14/2006(1)			M	_	20,000	+		40,875		I)		
Class A Common Stock 03/14/2006 ⁽¹⁾		03/14/2006(1)				S		20,000	D 2	§ 27.1832	20,875		I)		
Class A	Common S	tock	03/15/2006(1)				M		20,000) A 5	\$ 6	40,875		I)	
Class A Common Stock 03/15/2006 ⁽¹⁾		03/15/2006(1)				S		20,000	$D = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$	§ 27.2627	20,875		I)		
Reminder:	Report on a s	eparate line for eac	h class of securities	beneficiall	ly ow	ned	directly o		•	no resno	nd to the	collection	of informat	ion contains	od SEC	1474 (9-02)
Reminder:	Report on a s	eparate line for eac		- Derivati	ve Se	ecur	ities Acqu	Pers in th disp	ons whis form	are not currently	required valid ON eficially (to respond IB control r	unless the	ion containe form	ed SEC	1474 (9-02)
Reminder: 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion	3. Transaction	Table II	- Derivati (e.g., put 4. Transact Code	ve Sets, cal	5. N of D Secu Acq or D	ities Acqu varrants, umber erivative urities uired (A) risposed D) ir. 3, 4,	Pers in th disp nired, Di options, 6. Date	ons whis form lays a conver	are not currently of, or Ben tible secu	required valid OM eficially (rities)	to respond MB control r Dwned and Amount erlying es	unless the number.	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s	10. Owners Form of Derivat Security Direct (or Indir	11. Natu of Indire Benefici Ownersh (Instr. 4)
1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative	3. Transaction Date	Table II - 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	- Derivati (e.g., put 4. Transact Code	ve Sets, cal	5. N of D Sect Acq or D of (Inst	varrants, umber lerivative urities uired (A) iisposed D) ur. 3, 4, 5)	Pers in th disp nired, Di options, 6. Date	ons whis form lays a convertex conve	are not currently of, or Ben tible seculable and arr)	required valid ON eficially (rities) 7. Title of Under Securities	to respond MB control r Dwned and Amount erlying es	8. Price of Derivative Security	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	10. Owners Form of Derivat Security Direct (or Indir	11. Natu of Indire Benefici Ownersh (Instr. 4)
1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date	Table II - 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	- Derivati (e.g., put 4. Transact Code (Instr. 8)	ve Se sis, cal	5. N of D Sect Acq or D of (Inst	varrants, umber lerivative urities uired (A) iisposed D) ur. 3, 4, 5)	Pers in the displant options, 6. Date Expirati (Month/	ons whis form lays a converting converting to the converting converting to the conve	are not currently of, or Ben tible seculable and arr)	required valid ON eficially Crities) 7. Title of Unde Securiti (Instr. 3	Amount of Shares Amount 20,000	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s	10. Owners Form of Derivat Security Direct (or Indir	11. Natu of Indire Benefici Ownersh (Instr. 4)
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) Options to	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year	Table II - 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	- Derivatii (e.g., put 4. Transact Code (Instr. 8)	ve Se sis, cal	5. N of D Sect Acq or D of (Inst	ities Acqu varrants, umber erivative urities uired (A) isposed D) tr. 3, 4, 5)	Persin the displayment of the di	ons whis form lays a convertexercisa on Date (Day/Ye)	of, or Ben tible secu ible and ar)	required valid ON eficially Crities) 7. Title of Unde Securiti (Instr. 3 Title Class Communication Stoc	Amount or Number of Shares A anon 20,000 k A anon 20,000	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s(Instr. 4)	10. Owners Form of Derivat Security Direct (or Indir) (I) (Instr. 4	11. Natu of Indire Benefici Ownersh (Instr. 4)

Relationships

Other

Officer

10%

Owner

Director

Reporting Owner Name / Address

SMITH BRYAN SCOTT C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC.	X	Vice Chairman and CSO	
5401 EAST INDEPENDENCE BLVD. CHARLOTTE. NC 28212			

Signatures

/s/ B. Scott Smith	03/15/2006
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) Options exercised and shares sold pursuant to 10b5-1 trading plan.
- (2) Options vested in three annual installments beginning on October 9, 1998 and became fully vested on October 9, 2000.

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.