FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL
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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

(Print or Ty	pe Response	s)		1												
1. 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 10% Owner				
(Last) (First) (Middle) 6100 FAIRVIEW ROAD, #640				3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 04/21/2006								Office	r (give title belo	ow)	Other (specify b	pelow)
(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 PersonForm filed by More than One Reporting Person						
(City) (State) (Zip)				Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acqu						ired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned						
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Y			2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		(Instr. 8)		(A) or Disposed of		of (D)	Beneficial Reported	t of Securities ly Owned Following Transaction(s)		Ownership Form:	Beneficial		
						ode	V	Amoun	(A) or (D)	Price	(Instr. 3 a	Instr. 3 and 4)		Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Ownership (Instr. 4)	
Class A	Common S	Stock	04/21/2006				A		2,185	A	(1)	17,930			D	
Class A	Common S	Stock										6,000			I	By children
				Derivative S			equire	conta the fo	ained in orm dis sposed o	n this for splays a	m are curre eficial	e not reqเ ntly valid		spond unle trol numbe	ss	1474 (9-02)
1. Title of	12	3. Transaction	,	<i>e.g.</i> , puts, c:	alls, w	arran 5.	ts, op					itle and	& Drice of	9. Number	of 10.	11. Natur
Derivative Security	Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	Date (Month/Day/	Year) Execution Day	e, if Transaction Number Code of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		vative rities ired rosed)	and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) A U So (I		Amo Und Secu	ount of lerlying urities tr. 3 and Derivative Security (Instr. 5)		Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	Owners Form of Derivati Security Direct (or Indire	hip of Indirect Beneficia Ownersh (Instr. 4)		
				Code	e v	(A)	(D)	Date Exer		Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				

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	04/22/2006
**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) 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.