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

| (Print or Ty | pe Response | s) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|--------|-----------|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* SMITH BRYAN SCOTT | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH] | | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) _X_Director10% Owner | | | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC., 4401 COLWICK ROAD | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/18/2014 | | | | | | X_ Office | X Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) President and CSO | | | | | |
| (Street) CHARLOTTE, NC 28211 | | | | 4. If | 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) | | | | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acqui | | | | | | cquired, Disp | lired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | |
| (Instr. 3) Date (Month/Day/Year) | | any | emed ion Date, if /Day/Year) | Code | | (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | Beneficially Reported Tra | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | Form: Direct (I | Indirect Benefic Owners | Beneficial Ownership | | | |
| | | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | | | | or Indirect (Instr. 4) (I) (Instr. 4) | | •) | | | |
| Class A Common Stock | | 03/18/ | 2014 | | | F | | 6,463 (1) | D | \$ 23.72 | 288,609 | | | D | | | |
| Class A Common Stock | | | | | | | | | | | 69,686 ⁽²⁾ | 59,686 ⁽²⁾ | | I | of SM | opment | |
| Reminder: | Report on a s | separate line | e for each | | | | | P c tl | ersons v ontained ne form o | vho re in thi | is form ys a cu | I to the colled are not requirently valid | ired to res OMB cont | pond | unless | SEC 14 | 74 (9-02) |
| ı | 1 | 1 | | | (e.g., | puts, calls, | | | | | securit | ties) | | | | | _ |
| Security | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | xercise (Month/Day/Year) any (Month/Day/Year) Code (Instr. 8) of Derivative Securities (Month/Day/Year) | | ate r) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | Derivative Security (Instr. 5) Compared to the compared to th | | rities Form of ficially Deriva Security Direct red or Indisaction(s) | | Beneficia Ownersh (Instr. 4) | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Code V | 7 (A) (|] | Date Exercisabl | | iration e | Title Amount or Number of Shares | | | | | |

Reporting Owners

| | Relationships | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | |
| SMITH BRYAN SCOTT C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC. 4401 COLWICK ROAD CHARLOTTE, NC 28211 | X | | President and CSO | | | | |

Signatures

| /s/ B. Scott Sn | nith | 03/20/2014 | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|------------|--|--|--|--|
| **Signature of Reportin | g 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) Represents shares delivered by the reporting person to Sonic Automotive, Inc. to satisfy withholding tax obligations due upon vesting of restricted stock units
- (2) Mr. Smith disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares held by SMDA Development I, LLC except to the extent of his pecuniary interest, if any, therein.

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.