

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

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0104 | | | |
| Estimated average burden | | | | |
| nours per response | | | | |

INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 Type Responses) | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * SMITH MARCUS G | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) | | | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH] | | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 5555 CONCORD PARKWAY SOUTH | | | | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer | | | ndment, Date Original th/Day/Year) | |
| (Street) CONCORD, NC 28207 | | (Check Director Officer (give tit | | all applicable) X10% Own Other (specification) | eify Applicable I _X_ Form fi | 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 Beneficially Owned | | | | | wned | | |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) | | i | * | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) | | | |
| Class A Common Stock | 69,686 ⁽¹⁾ | | | | As a member of SMDA Development 1, LLC | | | |
| Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of Persons who respondingly unless the form display. Table II - Derivative | d to the c lays a cur | ollection rently val | of information lid OMB contro | contained in t I number. | | · | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security 2. Date Exercisable 3. Title ar | | 3. Title and Am Underlying Der | ount of Securitie | es 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) | | |
| | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | Security (D) | Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | | |
| Class B Common Stock | <u>(2)</u> | <u>(2)</u> | Class A Common Stock | 8,881,250 | \$ (2) | I | by SFC | |

Reporting Owners

| | Relationships | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------|-------|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address | | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| SMITH MARCUS G | | | | |
| 5555 CONCORD PARKWAY SOUTH | | X | | |
| CONCORD, NC 28207 | | | | |

Signatures

| /s/ Marcus G. Smith | 06/24/2015 |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| **Signature of Reporting Person | Date |

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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) The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares of Sonic Automotive, Inc.'s Class A Common Stock held by SMDA Development 1, LLC, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.
- (2) Shares of Sonic Automotive, Inc.'s Class B Common Stock are convertible into shares of Sonic Automotive, Inc.'s Class A Common Stock on a 1-for-1 basis at the option of the reporting person and there is no expiration date.

The reported securities are held by Sonic Financial Corporation ("SFC"), a North Carolina corporation of which the reporting person is a shareholder and an executive (3) officer. Represents the entire amount of Sonic Automotive, Inc.'s Class B Common Stock held by SFC. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of Sonic Automotive, Inc.'s Class B Common Stock held by SFC, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest 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.