## FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL
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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).

#### 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)                                    |   |  |                                |             |  |              |    |  |   |  |  |                        |  |   |            |  |                                     |            |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------|-------------|--|--------------|----|--|---|--|--|------------------------|--|---|------------|--|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Name and Address of Reporting Person *  Byrd Heath                    |   |                                       |   | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH] |                                |             |  |              |    |  |   | 5  | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner |                        |  |   |            |  |                                     |            |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC., 4401 COLWICK ROAD |   |                                       |   | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/31/2020            |                                |             |  |              |    |  |   |  | X Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)  EVP and CFO                            |                        |  |   |            |  |                                     |            |
| (Street) CHARLOTTE, NC 28211  |   |                                       |   | 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   | (City) (State) (Zip)  |                                       |   |  |                                |             | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned |              |    |  |   |  |  |                        |  |   |            |  |                                     |            |
| 1.Title of Security<br>(Instr. 3)                                     |   |                                       | 2. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Ye |  | Exec<br>any                    |             | if C   | (Instr. 8)   |    | tion   | 4. Securities Acquir<br>(A) or Disposed of<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |  | of (I  | (D) Benefic<br>Reporte |  | ount of Securities<br>cially Owned Following<br>ed Transaction(s)<br>3 and 4)                   |            | 6.<br>Ownership<br>Form:   | nership orm:                        | Beneficial |
|   |   |                                       |   | (Month/Day/Year)   |                                |             | Code   |              | V  | Amoun  | (A)<br>or<br>(D)  | Pric   |  | (Instr. 3 a            |  |   |            | Ownership<br>Instr. 4)   |                                     |            |
| Class A Common Stock 03/31/   |   |                                       | /2020                                   |  |                                |             | F  |              |    | 9,805<br>(1)   | D   | \$<br>13.2   | 28   | 196,568                |  |   | D          |  |                                     |            |
|   |   |                                       |   |  |                                | ative Secur |  |              | ti | onta<br>he fo  | ained in<br>orm dis<br>sposed o                                   | n this fo<br>splays a<br>of, or Be   | orm a<br>a cur<br>enefic   | are<br>ren             | not requ<br>tly valid                  | ction of inf<br>iired to res<br>OMB conf  | spond unle |  | 520.                                | 474 (9-02) |
| Security (Instr. 3)   | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/ | Year) E                                 | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date<br>any                                    | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) |             | 5. Nu of De: Sec (A) Dis of (In:   | 5.<br>Number |    | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) |   | 7<br>A<br>U<br>S<br>(1   | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Underlying<br>Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and<br>4)               |                        | Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)   | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4) | y<br>n(s)  | 10.<br>Ownershi<br>Form of<br>Derivativ<br>Security:<br>Direct (D<br>or Indirec<br>(I)<br>(Instr. 4) | Beneficia<br>Ownershi<br>(Instr. 4) |            |
|   |   |                                       |   |  |                                | Code V      | (A   | .) (D        | ]  | Date<br>Exerc  | cisable   | Expiration Date  | on T   | itle                   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |   |            |  |                                     |            |
| Repor   | ting O  | wners                                 |   |  |                                |             |  |              |    |  |   |  |  |                        |  |   |            |  |                                     |            |

|  | Relationships |              |             |       |  |  |  |  |
|--|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------|--|--|--|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Director      | 10%<br>Owner | Officer     | Other |  |  |  |  |
| Byrd Heath<br>C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC.<br>4401 COLWICK ROAD<br>CHARLOTTE, NC 28211 |               |              | EVP and CFO |       |  |  |  |  |

# **Signatures**

| /s/ Heath R. Byrd               | 04/02/2020 |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| **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) Represents shares delivered by the reporting person to Sonic Automotive, Inc. to satisfy withholding tax obligations due upon vesting of restricted stock units

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.