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).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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* Byrd Heath (Last) (First) (Middle) | | | | | SO] | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/15/2023 | | | | | | | | 5. Rela (Check | ationship of F all applicab Director Officer (g below) | le) | 10% Ov | | | |
|--|---------|-----|---|-----|---|--|--|-----|---|---|---|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | EVP and CFO | | | | | |
| 4401 COLWICK ROAD | | | | | 4. If A | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | | | | |
| (Street) CHARLOTTE | NC | 28 | 211 | | | | | | | | | | | X | | • | • | ng Person Ine Reportin | g Person | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zi | p) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Date | | | | | nsaction th/Day/Year) | | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 a | | | | 5. Amount Securities Beneficiall Following Transactio | y Owned Reported | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | | | | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) o (D) | r | Price | (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | | (11150.4) | |
| Class A Common Stock 0 | | | | 02/ | 15/2023 | | | | D | | 1,523 | (1) D | | \$0.00 | 172,129 | | | D | | |
| Class A Common Stock | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 23,651(2) | | | I | by Bucknell Avenue, LLC | | |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year, Derivative Security | | | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 6. Date Exercisable an Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | te | 7. Title and Amou Securities Under Derivative Securi (Instr. 3 and 4) | | erlying | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s | | Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | | Code V | | (A) | (D) | | | Expiration Date | Title | 0 | Amount or lumber of Shares | | (Instr. 4) | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Represents the forfeiture of restricted stock units granted pursuant to the Sonic Automotive, Inc. 2012 Stock Incentive Plan on February 9, 2022 based on the achievement of performance criteria for fiscal year 2022.
- 2. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of such shares of Sonic Automotive, Inc.'s Class A Common Stock, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

Remarks:

/s/ Heath R. Byrd

** Signature of Reporting Person

02/16/2023

Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.