

SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC

Form 4

March 15, 2006

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, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
SMITH BRYAN SCOTT

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE,
INC., 5401 EAST INDEPENDENCE
BLVD.

(Street)

CHARLOTTE, NC 28212

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)

03/13/2006

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

Vice Chairman and CSO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Class A Common Stock	03/13/2006 ⁽¹⁾		M		20,000	A	\$ 6
					40,875		D
Class A Common Stock	03/13/2006 ⁽¹⁾		S		20,000	D	\$ 27.04
					20,875		D
Class A Common Stock	03/14/2006 ⁽¹⁾		M		20,000	A	\$ 6
					40,875		D
Class A Common Stock	03/14/2006 ⁽¹⁾		S		20,000	D	\$
					20,875		D

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Common Stock						27.1832	
Class A Common Stock	03/15/2006 ⁽¹⁾		M	20,000	A	\$ 6	40,875 D
Class A Common Stock	03/15/2006 ⁽¹⁾		S	20,000	D	\$ 27.2627	20,875 D

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

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(9-02)

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)	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 and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Amount or Number of Shares
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title
Options to Purchase	\$ 6	03/13/2006 ⁽¹⁾		M	20,000	⁽²⁾ 10/09/2007	Class A Common Stock	20,000
Options to Purchase	\$ 6	03/14/2006 ⁽¹⁾		M	20,000	⁽²⁾ 10/09/2007	Class A Common Stock	20,000
Options to Purchase	\$ 6	03/15/2006 ⁽¹⁾		M	20,000	⁽²⁾ 10/09/2007	Class A Common Stock	20,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
SMITH BRYAN SCOTT C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC. 5401 EAST INDEPENDENCE BLVD.	X		Vice Chairman and CSO	

CHARLOTTE, NC 28212

Signatures

/s/ B. Scott
Smith

03/15/2006

__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) Options exercised and shares sold pursuant to 10b5-1 trading plan.

(2) Options vested in three annual installments beginning on October 9, 1998 and became fully vested on October 9, 2000.

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

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