

Rusnak Paul P.
Form 3
April 01, 2009

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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		2. Date of Event Requiring Statement	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	
* ^ Rusnak Paul P.		(Month/Day/Year)	SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH]	
(Last)	(First)	03/13/2009	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
325 W. COLORADO BLVD., PO BOX 70489			(Check all applicable)	
(Street)			___ Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner
PASADENA, CA 91117-7489			___ Officer	___ Other
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	(give title below)	(specify below)
				6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person
				___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Sonic Automotive Inc	1,000,000	D	^
Sonic Automotive Inc	3,100,000	I	By Paul Rusnak as trustee of the Paul P. Rusnak Family Trust

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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 control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security	4. Conversion or Exercise	5. Ownership Form of	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	(Instr. 4)	Amount or Number of Shares	Price of Derivative Security	Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I)
		Title			

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Rusnak Paul P. 325 W. COLORADO BLVD., PO BOX 70489 PASADENA, CA 91117-7489	^	^ X	^	^

Signatures

Paul P. Rusnak 04/01/2009

__Signature of Date
Reporting Person

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).
- 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.