

SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC

Form 4

June 19, 2015

**FORM 4****UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
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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., 4401 COLWICK ROAD

(Street)

CHARLOTTE, NC 28211

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol

SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH]

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

06/16/2015

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)

President 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<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities<br>Acquired (A) or<br>Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                       |                                         |                                                             |                                      | (A)<br>or<br>(D)                                                           |                                                                                                                    |                                                                      |                                                                   |
|                                       |                                         |                                                             | Code                                 | V                                                                          | Amount                                                                                                             |                                                                      | Price                                                             |

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

**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.**SEC 1474  
(9-02)**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 2. Conversion<br>or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any | 4. Transaction<br>Code | 5. Number<br>of Derivative<br>Securities | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of<br>Underlying Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price<br>of Underlying<br>Securities |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|

## Edgar Filing: SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC - Form 4

| (Instr. 3)                 | Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed of<br>(D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4,<br>and 5) |                     |     |                     |                    |                            |                                        |  | (Instr. 9)          |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------|--|---------------------|
|                            |                                    |                  | Code       | V                                                                   | (A)                 | (D) | Date<br>Exercisable | Expiration<br>Date | Title                      | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |  |                     |
| Class B<br>Common<br>Stock | <u>(1)</u>                         | 06/16/2015       | P          |                                                                     | 67.64<br><u>(2)</u> |     | <u>(1)</u>          | <u>(1)</u>         | Class A<br>Common<br>Stock | 67.64                                  |  | \$ 24<br><u>(3)</u> |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                                              | Relationships |           |                   |       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|
|                                                                                             | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer           | Other |
| SMITH BRYAN SCOTT<br>C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC.<br>4401 COLWICK ROAD<br>CHARLOTTE, NC 28211 | X             |           | President and CSO |       |

## Signatures

/s/ B. Scott  
Smith 06/19/2015

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) 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 officer. On June 16, 2015, the reporting person's father, Mr. O. Bruton Smith, transferred voting shares of SFC to the
- (2) reporting person and certain of his siblings in connection with estate and financial planning by Mr. O. Bruton Smith, and therefore, such transaction constitutes a proportionate transfer of his pecuniary interest in shares of Sonic Automotive, Inc.'s Class B Common Stock held by SFC to the reporting person.
- (3) Based solely on the closing price of Sonic Automotive, Inc.'s Class A Common Stock on June 15, 2015, as reported by the New York Stock Exchange.
- (4) 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.