SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC

Form 4

February 14, 2014

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

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

January 31, Expires:

OMB APPROVAL

Estimated average burden hours per response...

2005

0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

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

See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * **SMITH O BRUTON**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

Symbol

SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH]

(Check all applicable)

Chairman and CEO

(Last)

(First)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

_X__ Director

X 10% Owner

C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE,

02/12/2014

(Middle)

X_ Officer (give title below)

Other (specify

INC.. 5401 EAST INDEPENDENCE **BOULEVARD**

(Street)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

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

Applicable Line)

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

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

CHARLOTTE, NC 28212

(City) (State) (Zip) 1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

02/12/2014

3. Transaction(A) or Disposed of Code (D)

(1)

(Instr. 8)

A

4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned

Following

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Beneficial Indirect (I) Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

Reported (A)

\$0

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) Price

Class A

any

(Month/Day/Year)

Code V Amount (D) 80,241

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

338,431

D

Common

Stock

(Instr. 3)

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

(9-02)

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1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date		4.	5.	6. Date Exerc		7. Titl		8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	ofNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)			Amou Under Securi (Instr.	rlying	Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
SMITH O BRUTON C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC. 5401 EAST INDEPENDENCE BOULEVARD CHARLOTTE, NC 28212	X	X	Chairman and CEO				

Signatures

/s/ O. Bruton
Smith

**Signature of Reporting Person

O2/14/2014

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).

Represents shares of Class A Common Stock issuable upon conversion of restricted stock units granted by the Compensation Committee of Sonic Automotive, Inc. pursuant to the Sonic Automotive, Inc. 2004 Stock Incentive Plan. The restricted stock units may only be settled in shares of Class A Common Stock and are subject to forfeiture based on the satisfaction of performance criteria for fiscal year 2014. If the performance criteria are met, this award will vest in three annual installments, with twenty-five percent (25%) of the shares vesting on March 31, 2015, thirty percent (30%) of the shares vesting on February 12, 2016 and forty-five percent (45%) of the shares vesting on February 12, 2017.

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.

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