

SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC  
Form 4  
May 16, 2008

**FORM 4**

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

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

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
Number: 3235-0287  
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2005  
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burden hours per  
response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**RACHOR JEFFREY C**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE,  
INC., 5401 EAST INDEPENDENCE  
BOULEVARD**

(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)

**05/13/2008**

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)

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |                                                    | Code                           | V                                                                 | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price                                                                                         |                                                          |                                                       |
| Class A Common Stock            | 05/13/2008                           |                                                    | M                              |                                                                   | 18,333 | A          | \$ 16.51                                                                                      | 23,726                                                   | D                                                     |
| Class A Common Stock            | 05/13/2008                           |                                                    | M                              |                                                                   | 6,667  | A          | \$ 19.23                                                                                      | 30,393                                                   | D                                                     |
| Class A Common Stock            | 05/13/2008                           |                                                    | S                              |                                                                   | 25,000 | D          | \$ 19.41 (1)                                                                                  | 5,393                                                    | D                                                     |

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

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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 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) |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                            |                                                        |                                      |                                                    | Code                           | V (A) (D)                                                                               | Date Exercisable Expiration Date                         | Title Amount or Number of Shares                              |
| Options to Purchase                        | \$ 16.51                                               | 05/13/2008                           |                                                    | M                              | 18,333                                                                                  | 04/11/2002 10/11/2011                                    | Class A Common Stock 18,333                                   |
| Options to Purchase                        | \$ 19.23                                               | 05/13/2008                           |                                                    | M                              | 6,667                                                                                   | <u>(2)</u> 04/21/2015                                    | Class A Common Stock 6,667                                    |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                                                            | Relationships                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                                                                                                           | Director 10% Owner Officer Other |
| RACHOR JEFFREY C<br>C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC.<br>5401 EAST INDEPENDENCE BOULEVARD<br>CHARLOTTE, NC 28212 | X                                |

## Signatures

/s/ Jeffrey C.  
Rachor 05/14/2008

\_\_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 were sold at prices ranging from \$19.35 to \$19.58.

(2) Options vested in three equal annual installments beginning on 4/21/2006.

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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