

SMITH DAVID BRUTON  
Form 4  
January 02, 2013

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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**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 DAVID BRUTON

(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)

12/28/2012

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)

Executive Vice President

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 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)		
				(A) or (D)	Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price

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	2. Conversion or Exercise	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security
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The reporting person is a co-trustee and beneficiary of O. Bruton Smith Family Irrevocable Trust dated December 11, 2012 (the "Trust"), which received a 3.1685% interest in OBS Holdings, LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company ("Holdings") from Mr. O. Bruton

- (2) Smith by gift. Holdings is an indirect holder of 8,881,250 shares of Sonic Automotive, Inc.'s Class B Common Stock. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of shares held by the Trust, SFC and interests in Holdings, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

Reflects purchase of an 11.8819% interest in Holdings by OBS Family, LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company ("Family"), of

(3) which the reporting person and his three siblings each own a 25% equity interest. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of shares held by Family, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

- (4) Reflects purchase of an 11.8315% interest in Holdings by the Trust.

- (5) The reporting person received a gift of less than 1.0% of the outstanding stock of Sonic Financial Corporation ("SFC") from Mr. O. Bruton Smith. SFC holds directly 8,881,250 shares of Sonic Automotive, Inc.'s Class B Common Stock.

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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