

DYKE JEFF  
Form 3  
October 24, 2008

**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 \*

Â DYKE JEFF

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC., Â 6415 IDLEWILD ROAD, SUITE 109

(Street)

CHARLOTTE, Â NC Â 28212

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Date of Event Requiring Statement

(Month/Day/Year)  
10/16/2008

3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer  Other  
(give title below) (specify below)  
EVP of Operations

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

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 Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)

Class A Common Stock

2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)

63,044 <sup>(1)</sup>

3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)

D Â

4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)

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 (Instr. 4)

4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative

5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security:

6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Security	Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Options to Purchase	Â (2)	10/19/2015	Class A Common Stock	20,000	\$ 21.23	D	Â
Options to Purchase	Â (3)	04/19/2016	Class A Common Stock	33,500	\$ 26.42	D	Â
Options to Purchase	04/18/2008	04/18/2017	Class A Common Stock	10,050	\$ 30.07	D	Â

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
DYKE JEFF C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC. 6415 IDLEWILD ROAD, SUITE 109 CHARLOTTE, NC 28212	Â	Â	Â EVP of Operations	Â

## Signatures

/s/ Jeff Dyke                      10/24/2008

\_\_Signature of  
Reporting Person

Date

## 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).
- (1) Includes shares of restricted stock granted pursuant to the Sonic Automotive, Inc. 2004 Stock Incentive Plan. 15,000 of these shares are subject to forfeiture, in whole or in part, based on Sonic's earnings per share performance for the 2008 fiscal year.
- (2) Options to purchase vested in three equal annual installments beginning on 10/19/2006.
- (3) Options to purchase vested in two equal annual installments beginning on 4/19/2007.

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.