SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC

Form 4	
Sentember 1	0.2001

		// / OMB APPROVAL /	/			
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++ FORM 4 ++		ries AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION gton, D.C. 20549				
<pre>[_] Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.</pre>	STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP					
	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(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940					
(Print or Type Responses)						
1. Name and Address of Re	eporting Person*					
Benton	Wiiliam 	P.				
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)				
Parkland To	owers West, Ste. 1610	3 Parkland Blvd.				
	(Street)					
Dearborn	MI	48126				
(City)	(State)	(Zip)				
2. Issuer Name and Tickle	er or Trading Symbol	Sonic Automotive, Inc.(SAH)				
3. I.R.S. Identification (voluntary)	Number of Reporting Pe	erson, if an entity				
4. Statement for Month/Ye		08/01				
5. If Amendment, Date of	Original (Month/Year)					
6. Relationship of Report	ting Person(s) to Issue	er (Check all applicable)				
X Director Of	fficer	10% Owner Other				

	(give ti	tle below)			(speci	fy below)	
7. Individual or Join X Form filed by		_		licable Line	e)		
Form filed by							
Table INon-Derivati	ve Securiti	es Acquire	d, Di	sposed of, d	or Beneficial	ly Owned	
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	action Date (Month/	3. Trans- action Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		(A)	5. Amount o Securiti Benefici Owned at
Year)	·	Code	V		(A) or (D)	Price	End of Month (Instr.
Class A Common Stock					A		
Class A Common Stock	08/02/01	М		10,000	А	\$14.50	
Class A Common Stock	08/22/01			10,000		\$7.25	
Class A Common Stock	08/02/01	S		10,000	D	\$22.1188	
Class A Common Stock	08/02/01	S		10,000		\$22.1188	
Class A Common Stock	08/22/01	S		10,000	D	\$20.00	2,50
		(e.g., p	uts,	calls, warra		, convertib	le securities
1. Title of Derivation Security (Instr.		2. Conv sion Exer Pric Deri ativ Secu	or cise e of v- e	2 1 1	Frans- action Date (Month/ Day/ Year)	4. Trans tion (Inst	
						 Code	V

Options to Purchase	\$8.87	08/02,	08/02/01			
Options to Purchase	\$14.50	0 08/02/	/01	M		
Options to Purchase	\$7.25	08/22,	/01	M		
	C. D. L. Bron					^
	6. Date Exer- cisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/ Year)	d Underlyin (Instr. 3	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		Price of Deriv- ative Secur- ity (Instr.	9. Numb of D ativ Secu itie Bene fici
	Date Expi Exer- tior cisable Date	n Title	Amount or Number of Shares		5)	Owne at E of Mont (Ins
Options to Purchase	09/31/00 03/3	31/10 Class A Common Stoc	10,000 k			
Options to Purchase	09/31/99 03/3	Common Stock				
Options to Purchase		20/08 Class A Common Stoc				20,000
						I

Explanation of Responses:

09/06/01 /s/ William P. Benton **Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

- * 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.