## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549** 

### FORM 8-K

## **CURRENT REPORT**

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): April 27, 2004

# SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware 1-13395 56-201079 (State or Other (Commission (I.R.S. Employer

Jurisdiction of Incorporation) File Number) Indentification No.)

5401 E. Independence Boulevard,

Charlotte, North Carolina 28212 (Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (704) 566-2400

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### Item 5. Other Events and Regulation FD Disclosure

On April 27, 2004, we issued a press release announcing the resignation of Theodore M. Wright as President and a director and the promotion of Jeffrey C. Rachor to President and E. Lee Wyatt, Jr. s promotion to Executive Vice President.

A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

#### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this current report on Form 8-K to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC.

By: /s/ Stephen K. Coss

Stephen K. Coss

Senior Vice President and General

Counsel

Dated: April 27, 2004