

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 *                  |         | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement | 3. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol                     |  |
| Â DYKE JEFF  |         | (Month/Day/Year)                     | SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH]   |  |
| (Last)   | (First) | (Middle)                             | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer                       | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) |
|  |         | 10/16/2008                           |  |  |
| C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC.,Â 6415 IDLEWILD ROAD, SUITE 109 |         |                                      | (Check all applicable)   |  |
| (Street)   |         |                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Director                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner                   |
|  |         |                                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                       |
|  |         |                                      | (give title below) (specify below)                                     |  |
|  |         |                                      | EVP of Operations  |  |
|  |         |                                      | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)             |  |
|  |         |                                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person |  |
|  |         |                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person  |  |
| CHARLOTTE,Â NCÂ 28212                                      |         |                                      |  |  |
| (City)   | (State) | (Zip)                                |  |  |

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security<br>(Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned<br>(Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership<br>(Instr. 5) |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Class A Common Stock               | 63,044 <sup>(1)</sup>                                    | D   | Â  |

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<br>(Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security<br>(Instr. 4) | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership<br>(Instr. 5) |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|
|---|---|--|---|---|--|

## Edgar Filing: DYKE JEFF - Form 3

|                     | 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<br>Common Stock | 20,000                     | \$ 21.23 | D                                     | Â |
| Options to Purchase | Â (3)            | 04/19/2016      | Class A<br>Common Stock | 33,500                     | \$ 26.42 | D                                     | Â |
| Options to Purchase | 04/18/2008       | 04/18/2017      | Class A<br>Common Stock | 10,050                     | \$ 30.07 | D                                     | Â |

## Reporting Owners

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

## Signatures

/s/ Jeff Dyke                      10/24/2008  
 \*\*Signature of                      Date  
 Reporting Person

## 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.