

SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC  
Form 8-K  
December 18, 2002

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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**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): December 17, 2002

**SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC.**

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(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

**Delaware**

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(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

**1-13395**  
(Commission File Number)

**56-201079**  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**5401 E. Independence Boulevard Charlotte, North Carolina**  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**28212**  
(Zip Code)

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

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**Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure**

On December 17, 2002, we issued a press release announcing revised earnings targets.

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/ THEODORE M.  
                              WRIGHT

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Theodore M. Wright  
President and Chief  
Financial Officer

Dated: December 17, 2002