

VAUGHAN STEPHEN C  
Form 4  
January 20, 2012

**FORM 4**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN 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 \*  
VAUGHAN STEPHEN C

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
300 JOHNNY BENCH DRIVE  
(Street)

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73104

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
SONIC CORP [SONC]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
01/18/2012

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Exec. Vice Pres. & CFO

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 Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock				(A) or (D) Price	97,565 <sup>(1)</sup>	D	
Common Stock					12,613	I <sup>(2)</sup>	By 401(k)

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

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(9-02)

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**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares
Incentive Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 6.8	01/18/2012		A	14,705	<u>(3)</u> 01/18/2019	Common Stock	14,705
Non-qualified stock option (right to buy)	\$ 6.8	01/18/2012		A	36,581	<u>(3)</u> 01/18/2019	Common Stock	36,581

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
VAUGHAN STEPHEN C 300 JOHNNY BENCH DRIVE OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73104			Exec. Vice Pres. & CFO	

## Signatures

Carolyn C. Cummins for Stephen C. Vaughan  
01/20/2012

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* 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).

- (1) The total number of shares beneficially owned directly includes 1,057 shares held in the 1991 Sonic Corp. Stock Purchase Plan as of January 17, 2012.
- (2) Shares held in the Sonic Corp. 401(k) as of January 17, 2012.
- (3) One-third of the total number of options granted on January 18, 2012 will vest on each of the first three anniversary dates following the date of grant.

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.