# UNITED STATES 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): July 31, 2006

# Asbury Automotive Group, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

5511 (Commission File Number) **01-0609375** (IRS Employer Identification No.)

**622 Third Avenue, 37<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY** (Address of principal executive offices)

**10017** (Zip Code)

(212) 885-2500

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

None

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Description

#### Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

On August 3, 2006, the registrant issued a press release announcing that the Board of Directors declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.20 per share payable on August 24, 2006 to shareholders of record as of August 11, 2006. A copy of such press release is being furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Report and is incorporated by reference herein.

#### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits.

Exhibit No.

99.1

Press Release dated August 3, 2006.

### SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

## ASBURY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP, INC.

Date: August 3, 2006

By: /s/ Kenneth B. Gilman

Name: Kenneth B. Gilman Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

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#### EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. 99.1 Description Press Release dated August 3, 2006.



**Investors May Contact:** 

Stacey Yonkus Director, Investor Relations (212) 885-2512 investor@asburyauto.com

Reporters May Contact: Tom Pratt RFBinder Partners (212) 994-7563 Tom.Pratt@RFBinder.com

#### Asbury Automotive Group Initiates \$0.20 per Share Quarterly Dividend

New York, NY, August 3, 2006—Asbury Automotive Group, Inc. (NYSE: ABG), one of the largest automotive retail and service companies in the U.S., today announced that its Board of Directors has approved a quarterly dividend of \$0.20 per common share, the first dividend in the Company's history. The dividend will be payable on August 24, 2006 to shareholders of record as of August 11, 2006.

President and CEO Kenneth B. Gilman said, "For some time now, Asbury has had a target 'Total Annual Return Objective' of 12% to15%. Previously, we anticipated meeting this goal through a combination of acquisitions, productivity improvements and organic growth. However, in today's market, the availability of attractive acquisitions is less than in prior years. The Board believes it can better serve our shareholders' interests by reducing the amount spent on acquisitions and instead returning a portion of our annual cash flow to them in the form of a dividend. The new dividend annualizes at a payout ratio of approximately 40% of income from continuing operations and will leave Asbury with significant financial capacity and operating flexibility."

#### **About Asbury Automotive Group**

Asbury Automotive Group, Inc., headquartered in New York City, is one of the largest automobile retailers in the U.S., with 2005 revenue of approximately \$5.5 billion. Built through a combination of organic growth and a series of strategic acquisitions, the Company currently operates 87 retail auto stores, encompassing 120 franchises for the sale and servicing of 33 different brands of American, European and Asian automobiles. Asbury believes that its product mix contains a higher proportion of the more desirable luxury and mid-line import brands than most public automotive retailers. The Company offers customers an extensive range of automotive products and services, including new and used vehicle sales and related financing and insurance, vehicle maintenance and repair services, replacement parts and service contracts.

#### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" as that term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The forward-looking statements include statements relating to goals, plans, projections and guidance regarding the Company's financial position, results of operations, market position, product development, pending and potential future acquisitions and business strategy. These statements are based on management's current expectations and involve significant risks and uncertainties that may cause results to differ materially from those set forth in the statements. These risks and uncertainties include, among other things, market factors, the Company's relationships with vehicle manufacturers and other suppliers which could cause, among other things, acquisitions under contract or letters of intent to fail, risks associated with the Company's indebtedness, risks related to pending and potential future acquisitions. There can be no guarantees that the Company's plans for future operations will be successfully implemented or that they will prove to be commercially successful or that the Company will be able to continue paying dividends in the future at the current rate or at all. These and other risk factors are discussed in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K and in its other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We undertake no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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