AUTONATION, INC. Form SC 13D/A November 24, 2009

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

SCHEDULE 13D

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. 26)*

AutoNation, Inc.

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share

(Title of Class of Securities)

05329W102

(CUSIP Number)

David A. Katz, Esq.

Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz

51 West 52nd Street

New York, New York 10019

(212) 403-1000

(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications)

November 23, 2009

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of This Statement)

If the filing person has previously filed a statement on Schedule 13G to report the acquisition that is the subject of this Schedule 13D, and is filing this schedule because of §§ 240.13d-1(e), 240.13d-1(f), or 240.13d-1(g), check the following box:

Note: Schedules filed in paper format shall include a signed original and five copies of the schedule, including all exhibits. See §240.13d-7 for other parties to whom copies are to be sent.

* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person s initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required on the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be filed for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Act) or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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CUSIP No. 05329W102

NAME OF REPORTING PERSON 1 ESL Partners, L.P. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP 2 (a) x (b) " SEC USE ONLY 3 SOURCE OF FUNDS 4 N/A CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEM 2(d) OR 2(e) 5 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION 6 Delaware **SOLE VOTING POWER** 7 58,849,041 NUMBER OF SHARED VOTING POWER **SHARES** 8 **BENEFICIALLY** 0 OWNED BY SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER **EACH** 9 REPORTING 58,849,041 PERSON WITH SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 10 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 11 80,044,240 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES 12 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11) 13 45.8% TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON 14 PN

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CUSIP No. 05329W102

NAME OF REPORTING PERSON 1 ESL Institutional Partners, L.P. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP 2 (a) x (b) " SEC USE ONLY 3 SOURCE OF FUNDS 4 N/A CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEM 2(d) OR 2(e) 5 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION 6 Delaware SOLE VOTING POWER 7 221,701 NUMBER OF SHARED VOTING POWER **SHARES** 8 **BENEFICIALLY** 0 OWNED BY SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER **EACH** 9 REPORTING 221,701 PERSON WITH SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 10 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 11 80,044,240 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES 12 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11) 13 45.8% TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON 14 PN

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CUSIP No. 05329W102

NAME OF REPORTING PERSON 1 ESL Investors, L.L.C. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP 2 (a) x (b) " SEC USE ONLY 3 SOURCE OF FUNDS 4 N/A CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEM 2(d) OR 2(e) 5 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION 6 Delaware **SOLE VOTING POWER** 7 12,421,794 NUMBER OF SHARED VOTING POWER **SHARES** 8 **BENEFICIALLY** 0 OWNED BY SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER **EACH** 9 REPORTING 12,421,794 PERSON WITH SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 10 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 11 80,044,240 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES 12 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11) 13 45.8% TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON 14 OO

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CUSIP No. 05329W102

NAME OF REPORTING PERSON 1 ESL Investments, Inc. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP 2 (a) x (b) " SEC USE ONLY 3 SOURCE OF FUNDS 4 N/A CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEM 2(d) OR 2(e) 5 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION 6 Delaware **SOLE VOTING POWER** 7 79,659,870 NUMBER OF SHARED VOTING POWER **SHARES** 8 **BENEFICIALLY** 0 OWNED BY SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER **EACH** 9 REPORTING 79,659,870 PERSON WITH SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 10 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 11 80,044,240 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES 12 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11) 13 45.8% TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON 14 CO

CUSIP No. 05329W102 17 Page 6 of NAME OF REPORTING PERSON 1 CBL Partners, L.P. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP 2 (a) x (b) " SEC USE ONLY 3 SOURCE OF FUNDS 4 N/A CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEM 2(d) OR 2(e) 5 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION 6 Delaware SOLE VOTING POWER 7 5,712,083 NUMBER OF SHARED VOTING POWER **SHARES** 8 **BENEFICIALLY** 0 OWNED BY SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER **EACH** 9 REPORTING 5,712,083 PERSON WITH SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 10 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 11 80,044,240 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES 12 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11) 13 45.8% TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON 14 PN

CUSIP No. 05329W102

NAME OF REPORTING PERSON 1 Tynan, LLC CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP 2 (a) x (b) " SEC USE ONLY 3 SOURCE OF FUNDS 4 N/A CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEM 2(d) OR 2(e) 5 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION 6 Delaware SOLE VOTING POWER 7 2,406 NUMBER OF SHARED VOTING POWER **SHARES** 8 **BENEFICIALLY** 0 OWNED BY SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER **EACH** 9 REPORTING 2,406 PERSON WITH SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 10 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 11 80,044,240 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES 12 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11) 13 45.8% TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON 14 OO

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CUSIP No. 05329W102

NAME OF REPORTING PERSON 1 ESL Investment Management, L.P. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP 2 (a) x (b) " SEC USE ONLY 3 SOURCE OF FUNDS 4 N/A CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEM 2(d) OR 2(e) 5 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION 6 Delaware SOLE VOTING POWER 7 61,964 NUMBER OF SHARED VOTING POWER **SHARES** 8 **BENEFICIALLY** 0 OWNED BY SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER **EACH** 9 REPORTING 61,964 PERSON WITH SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 10 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 11 80,044,240 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES 12 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11) 13 45.8% TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON 14 PN

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CUSIP No. 05329W102 9 Page of NAME OF REPORTING PERSON 1 RBS Partners, L.P. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP 2 (a) x (b) " SEC USE ONLY 3 SOURCE OF FUNDS 4 N/A CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEM 2(d) OR 2(e) 5 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION 6 Delaware **SOLE VOTING POWER** 7 73,726,086 NUMBER OF SHARED VOTING POWER **SHARES** 8 **BENEFICIALLY** 0 OWNED BY SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER **EACH** 9 REPORTING 73,726,086 PERSON WITH SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 10 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 11 80,044,240 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES 12 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11) 13 45.8% TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON 14 PN

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CUSIP No. 05329W102

NAME OF REPORTING PERSON 1 RBS Investment Management, L.L.C. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP 2 (a) x (b) " SEC USE ONLY 3 SOURCE OF FUNDS 4 N/A CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEM 2(d) OR 2(e) 5 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION 6 Delaware SOLE VOTING POWER 7 221,701 NUMBER OF SHARED VOTING POWER **SHARES** 8 **BENEFICIALLY** 0 OWNED BY SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER **EACH** 9 REPORTING 221,701 PERSON WITH SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 10 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 11 80,044,240 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES 12 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11) 13 45.8% TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON 14 OO

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CUSIP No. 05329W102

NAME OF REPORTING PERSON 1 Edward S. Lampert CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP 2 (a) x (b) " SEC USE ONLY 3 SOURCE OF FUNDS 4 N/A CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEM 2(d) OR 2(e) 5 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION 6 **United States SOLE VOTING POWER** 7 79,851,834 NUMBER OF SHARED VOTING POWER **SHARES** 8 **BENEFICIALLY** 0 OWNED BY SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER **EACH** 9 REPORTING 79,851,834 PERSON WITH SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 10 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 11 80,044,240 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES 12 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11) 13 45.8% TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON 14 ΙN

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CUSIP No. 05329W102

NAME OF REPORTING PERSON 1 William C. Crowley CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP 2 (a) x (b) " SEC USE ONLY 3 SOURCE OF FUNDS 4 N/A CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEM 2(d) OR 2(e) 5 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION 6 **UNITED STATES** SOLE VOTING POWER 7 192,406 NUMBER OF SHARED VOTING POWER **SHARES** 8 **BENEFICIALLY** 0 OWNED BY SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER **EACH** 9 REPORTING 192,406 PERSON WITH SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 10 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 11 80,044,240 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES 12 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11) 13 45.8% TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON 14 ΙN

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This Amendment No. 26 to Schedule 13D (this Amendment No. 26) relates to shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (Shares), of AutoNation, Inc. (the Issuer). This Amendment No. 26 supplementally amends the statement on Schedule 13D, as amended, filed by a group consisting of ESL Partners, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership (ESL), ESL Institutional Partners, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership (Institutional), ESL Investors, L.L.C., a Delaware limited liability company (Investors), ESL Investments, Inc., a Delaware S corporation (Investments), CBL Partners, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership (ESLIM), RBS Partners, L.P., a Delaware S. Lampert, and William C. Crowley, both United States citizens, by furnishing the information set forth below. ESL, Institutional, Investors, Investments, CBL, Tynan, ESLIM, RBS, RBSIM, Mr. Lampert and Mr. Crowley are collectively defined in this Amendment No. 26 as the Filing Persons. Unless set forth below, all previous Items are unchanged. Capitalized terms used herein which are not defined herein have the meanings given to them in the Schedule 13D, as amended, previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The Filing Persons are filing this Amendment No. 26 to report that Investments has entered into an amendment to a certain agreement as described in Item 4 hereof.

Item 3. Source and Amount of Funds or Other Consideration

Item 3 is hereby amended to add the following:

In open market purchases on February 2, 2009, February 3, 2009 and February 4, 2009, ESL acquired an aggregate of 203,945 Shares for aggregate consideration of approximately \$1,925,313 using working capital. In open market purchases on February 2, 2009, February 3, 2009 and February 4, 2009, an account established by the investment member of Investors acquired an aggregate of 232,639 Shares for aggregate consideration of approximately \$2,177,983 using working capital.

Item 4. Purpose of Transaction

Item 4 is hereby amended to add the following:

On November 23, 2009, Investments and its affiliates entered into an amendment to the Letter Agreement with Toyota (the Letter Agreement Amendment), pursuant to which the parties to the Letter Agreement with Toyota extended the termination date of the Letter Agreement to December 31, 2010 in accordance with the terms of the Letter Agreement.

The foregoing summary of the Letter Agreement Amendment does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Letter Agreement Amendment, which is incorporated by reference as Exhibit 6 and is incorporated herein by reference.

Other than as described in this Item 4, none of the Filing Persons, nor, to the knowledge of each Filing Person, any individuals listed in response to Item 2 hereof, has any current plans or proposals that relate to or that would result in any of the transactions or other matters specified in clauses (a) through (j) of Item 4 of Schedule 13D; provided that the Filing Persons may, at any time, review or reconsider their position with respect to the Issuer and reserve the right to develop such plans or proposals.

Item 5. Interest in Securities of the Issuer

Item 5 is hereby amended and restated in its entirety to read as follows:

(a)-(b) As of November 23, 2009, the Filing Persons may be deemed to beneficially own an aggregate of 80,044,240 Shares (approximately 45.8% of the outstanding Shares based on the Issuer having 174,474,518 Shares outstanding on October 26, 2009, as disclosed in the Issuer s last quarterly report on Form 10-Q, plus 190,000 Shares issuable upon the exercise of director stock options held by Mr. Crowley).

	NUMBER OF	PERCENTAGE	COLE	CILAI	DED COLE	CHADED
REPORTING	SHARES BENEFICIALLY	OF OUTSTANDING	SOLE VOTING		RED SOLE ING DISPOSITIVE	SHARED DISPOSITIVE
PERSON	OWNED	SHARES	POWER	POW		POWER
ESL Partners,	J	5	, ,			
L.P.	80,044,240 (1)	45.8%	58,849,041	0	58,849,041	0
	_					
ESL Institutional						
Partners, L.P.	80,044,240 (1)	45.8%	221,701	0	221,701	0
ESL Investors,		45.8%				
L.L.C.	80,044,240 (1)		12,421,794	0	12,421,794	0
ESL Investments,		45.8%	79,659,870			
Inc.	80,044,240 (1)		(2)	0	79,659,870 (2)	0
CBL Partners,		45.8%				
L.P.	80,044,240 (1)		5,712,083	0	5,712,083	0
Tynan, LLC	80,044,240 (1)	45.8%	2,406	0	2,406	0
ESL Investment						
Management,						
L.P.	80,044,240 (1)	45.8%	61,964	0	61,964	0
RBS Partners,		45.8%	73,726,086			
L.P.	80,044,240 (1)		(3)	0	73,726,086 (3)	0
RBS Investment						
Management,						
L.L.C.	80,044,240 (1)	45.8%	221,701 (4)	0	221,701 (4)	0
Edward S.	,	45.8%	79,851,834		. , ,	
Lampert	80,044,240 (1)		(5)	0	79,851,834 (5)	0
William C.	. , , , ,	45.8%			. , , , ,	
Crowley	80,044,240 (1)		192,406 (6)	0	192,406 (6)	0

- (1) This number consists of 58,849,041 Shares held by ESL, 221,701 Shares held by Institutional, 12,421,794 Shares held in an account established by the investment member of Investors, 5,712,083 Shares held by CBL, 2,406 Shares held by Tynan, 61,964 Shares held by ESLIM, 2,455,251 Shares held by RBS, 130,000 Shares held by Mr. Lampert and 190,000 Shares issuable upon the exercise of director stock options held by Mr. Crowley.
- (2) This number consists of 58,849,041 Shares held by ESL, 221,701 Shares held by Institutional, 12,421,794 Shares held in an account established by the investment member of Investors, 5,712,083 Shares held by CBL and 2,455,251 Shares held by RBS.
- (3) This number consists of 58,849,041 Shares held by ESL, 12,421,794 Shares held in an account established by the investment member of Investors and 2,455,251 Shares held by RBS.
- (4) This number consists of 221,701 Shares held by Institutional.
- (5) This number consists of 58,849,041 Shares held by ESL, 221,701 Shares held by Institutional, 12,421,794 Shares held in an account established by the investment member of Investors, 5,712,083 Shares held by CBL, 61,964 Shares held by ESLIM, 2,455,251 Shares held by RBS and 130,000 Shares held by Mr. Lampert.
- (6) This number consists of 2,406 Shares held by Tynan and 190,000 Shares issuable upon the exercise of director stock options held by Mr. Crowley.

- (c) There have been no transactions in Shares by any of the Filing Persons in the past sixty days.
- (d) Not applicable.
- (e) Not applicable.

Item 6. Contracts, Arrangements, Understandings or Relationships with Respect to Securities of the Issuer

The response to Item 4 hereof is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 7. Materials to be Filed as Exhibits

Exhibit 6: Amendment, dated November 23, 2009, to the Letter Agreement, dated as of January 28, 2009, by and among AutoNation, Inc., Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. and ESL Investments, Inc. and certain investment affiliates of ESL Investments, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by AutoNation, Inc. with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 23, 2009)

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SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated: November 23, 2009

ESL PARTNERS, L.P.

By: RBS Partners, L.P., as its general partner

By: ESL Investments, Inc., as its general partner

By: /s/ Adrian J. Maizey

Name: Adrian J. Maizey
Title: Chief Financial Officer

ESL INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS, L.P.

By: RBS Investment Management, L.L.C., as its general partner

By: ESL Investments, Inc., as its manager

By: /s/ Adrian J. Maizey

Name: Adrian J. Maizey Title: Chief Financial Officer

ESL INVESTORS, L.L.C.

By: RBS Partners, L.P., as its manager

By: ESL Investments, Inc., as its general partner

By: /s/ Adrian J. Maizey

Name: Adrian J. Maizey Title: Chief Financial Officer

ESL INVESTMENTS, INC.

By: /s/ Adrian J. Maizey

Name: Adrian J. Maizey
Title: Chief Financial Officer

CBL PARTNERS, L.P.

By: ESL Investments, Inc., as its general partner

By: /s/ Adrian J. Maizey

Name: Adrian J. Maizey
Title: Chief Financial Officer

TYNAN, LLC

By: /s/ William C. Crowley

Name: William C. Crowley

Title: Member

ESL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT, L.P.

By: ESL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT (GP), L.L.C., its general partner

By: /s/ Edward S. Lampert

Name: Edward S. Lampert Title: Managing Member

RBS PARTNERS, L.P.

By: ESL Investments, Inc., as its general partner

By: /s/ Adrian J. Maizey

Name: Adrian J. Maizey
Title: Chief Financial Officer

RBS INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT, L.L.C.

By: ESL Investments, Inc., as its manager

By: /s/ Adrian J. Maizey

Name: Adrian J. Maizey
Title: Chief Financial Officer

EDWARD S. LAMPERT

/s/ Edward S. Lampert

Edward S. Lampert

WILLIAM C. CROWLEY

/s/ William C. Crowley

William C. Crowley

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. Description

Amendment, dated November 23, 2009, to the Letter Agreement, dated as of January 28, 2009, by and among AutoNation, Inc., Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. and ESL Investments, Inc. and certain investment affiliates of ESL Investments, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by AutoNation, Inc. with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 23, 2009)