

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0104
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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Shafer Stephen M</u> <hr/> (Last) (First) (Middle) A. O. SMITH CORPORATION 11270 WEST PARK PLACE <hr/> (Street) MILWAUKEE WI 53224 <hr/> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 03/18/2024	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>SMITH A O CORP [ AOS ]</u>		5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)
		4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) COO		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

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			

Explanation of Responses:

**Remarks:**

No securities are beneficially owned.

James F. Stern, Attorney-in-Fact for 03/20/2024  
Stephen M. Shafer  
 \*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

\* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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 Number.

## POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know all by these presents, that, for good and valuable consideration, the sufficiency and receipt of which are hereby acknowledged, the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints each of James F. Stern, Laura E. Kuhn, Brian E Cothroll and Wendy L. Grant, and any of their substitutes, signing singly, the undersigned's true and lawful attorney-in-fact to:

(1) execute for and on behalf of the undersigned a Form ID (the "Form ID") to obtain access codes to file enable the undersigned to file on EDGAR;

(2) execute for and on behalf of the undersigned (in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules thereunder (the "Exchange Act")), in the undersigned's capacity as an officer of A. O. Smith Corporation, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), any and all Forms 3, 4 and/or 5, and any amendments thereto, that are necessary or advisable for the undersigned to file under Section 16(a) (collectively, "Documents");

(3) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned that may be necessary or desirable to complete and execute the Form ID and any such Documents and timely file the Form ID and such Documents with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any stock exchange or similar authority; and

(4) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in such attorney-in-fact's discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to each such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform any and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary or proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution or revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that each such attorney-in-fact (or such attorney-in-fact's substitute or substitutes) shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this Power of Attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that each attorney-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, is not assuming, nor is such attorney-in-fact's substitute or substitutes or the Company assuming, any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with the Exchange Act. The undersigned agrees to defend and hold harmless each attorney-in-fact (and such attorney-in-fact's substitute or substitutes) from and against any and all loss, damage or liability that such attorney-in-fact may sustain as a result of any action taken in good faith hereunder.

This Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file Documents with respect to the undersigned's holdings of and transactions in securities issued by the Company, unless earlier revoked by the undersigned in a signed writing delivered to each of the foregoing attorneys-in-fact.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 19 day of MARCH, 2024.

  
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Stephen M. Shafer

