FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  MITTELSTAEDT ROBERT E JR					LA	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol LABORATORY CORP OF AMERICA HOLDINGS [ LH ]									Check all a	ionship of Reporting all applicable) Director		g Person(s) to Issuer 10% Owner		
(Last)	(Fii	rst) (I	3. D	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/01/2003										Officer (give title below)		Other (specify below)				
(Street)					4. If	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person					
(City)	(St	ate) (a	Zip)												Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																			
Date				Date	Date (Month/Day/Year)		2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		Transaction Dispose Code (Instr. 5)		Disposed	ities Acquired (A) d Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4			nd Sec Ben Owi	mount of urities eficially ned Following orted	Fori	wnership m: Direct or Indirect nstr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
							Code	v	Amount		(A) or (D)	Price	Trai	saction(s) tr. 3 and 4)			(,			
Common Stock					12/01/2003				A		46(1)	A \$3		\$35	.85	5 10,229 <sup>(2)</sup>		D		
	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 Da if any (Month/Day/\)	Date, Transaction					6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)			7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4)		str. 3	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	derivative Securities	Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisal		Expiration Date	Title	or Nur of	ount nber ires						

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Stock award represents half the monthly Director retainer pursuant to the Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings 1995 Stock Plan for Non-Employee Directors.
- 2. Amount shown reflects a 2-for-1 stock split effective on May 10, 2002.

/s/ Bradford T. Smith, Attorney-in-Fact for Robert E. 12/03/2003 Mittelstaedt, Jr.

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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).

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.