FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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* SMITH BRADFORD T						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol LABORATORY CORP OF AMERICA								5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner						
		- HC	HOLDINGS [LH]								X		give title		Other (sp	pecify				
(Last) (First) (Middle) 430 SOUTH SPRING STREET						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/30/2004									below) below) EVP, Chf Legal Offcr,Secretary					
(Ctroot)	- 4. If	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)								6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)										
(Street) BURLINGTON NC 27215													X Form filed by One Reporting Person							
					-								Form filed by More than One Reporting Person							
(City)	(Sta		. 5.55																	
			le I - N			_			_	d, Di	sposed of			ially	1		1			
Date				Date	. Transaction ate 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		(A) or 3, 4 and	nd 5) Securities Beneficial Following		ly Owned Reported	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirec (I) (Instr. 4)	Direct I Indirect E str. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
									Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction (Instr. 3 ar						
Common S	Stock ⁽¹⁾			12/30/	/2004				M		245	A	\$39	39.34 98,24		.1481 ⁽²⁾		D		
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾ 12/30					/2004	.004					13,628	A	\$33.0	3.0625 111,870		.1481(2)		D		
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾ 12/30									S		425	D	\$50	0.03 111,445		.1481(2)		D		
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾ 12/30/2						2004					2,280	D	\$ <mark>50</mark>	50.02 109,165		.1481(2)		D		
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾ 12/30/20						004			S		38	D	\$50	\$50.01 109,		7.1481 ⁽²⁾		D		
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾ 12/30/20						004		S		11,130	D	\$5	0	97,997.	97,997.1481(2)		D			
		٦	Table II								oosed of, convertib			-	wned					
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) 3. Dee Execution if any (Month/Mon			4. Transa Code (8)				6. Date Exerc Expiration D (Month/Day/		ite	7. Title and An of Securities Underlying Derivative Sec (Instr. 3 and 4)			8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Numbe derivative Securities Beneficia Owned Following Reported Transacti (Instr. 4)	e es ally g	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
					Code	v	(A) (D)		Date Exercisable		Expiration Date	Title	Amo or Num of Sha	nber						
Non- qualified Stock Options ⁽¹⁾⁽³⁾	\$33.0625	12/30/2004			M			13,628	02/05/2	2002 ⁽⁴⁾	02/05/2011	Commor Stock	13,0	628	\$33.0625	17,48	4	D		
Non- qualified Stock Options ⁽¹⁾⁽³⁾	\$39.34	12/30/2004			M			245	01/07/2	2003 ⁽⁴⁾	01/07/2012	Commor Stock	1 24	4 5	\$39.34	49,20	0	D		

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Pursuant to a plan in accordance with Rule 10b5-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.
- 2. Amount shown reflects a 2-for-1 stock split effective on May 10, 2002.
- 3. Common stock purchase option granted under the Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings 2000 Stock Incentive Plan.
- 4. The option vests in three equal installments beginning on the date reflected in this column.

Remarks:

By: /s/ BRADFORD T. SMITH 01/03/2005

** 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 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.