FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPRO	OVAL				
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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						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol LABORATORY CORP OF AMERICA HOLDINGS [ LH ]										onship of Reporting P all applicable) Director			Person(s) to Issuer 10% Owner	
(Last)		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/03/2004										Officer (give title below)		Other (specify below)						
(Street) (City)		4. If	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)     X Form filed by One Reporting Person     Form filed by More than One Reporting								
(City) (State) (Zip) Form filed by More than One Reporting Person  Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																				
Da					Date (Month/Day/Year)		2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		Transaction Dispo		Disposed	ırities Acquired (A) o ed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4			and Securi		cially I Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
								Code	v	Amount		(A) or (D)	Price	Transa		ction(s) 3 and 4)			(	
Common Stock 05/0						3/2004			A		41(1)	A \$4		\$40	.39 10,442(2)		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. Deeme Execution 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. 3 and 4)		str. 3	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)		9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4)	Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	vnership orm: rect (D) 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.

05/05/2004

**Mittelstaedt** 

\*\* 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.