FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>ELINGBURG WESLEY R</u>				2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol LABORATORY CORP OF AMERICA HOLDINGS [LH]							(Che	elationship of ck all application	able)	g Perso	on(s) to Issu 10% Ow Other (s	ner	
(Last)	(F	irst)	(Middle)		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/17/2004							below)	EVP, CFO, Tre		below)	, ,	
(Street)				4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)						Line	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)						
(City)	(S	tate)	(Zip)									X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																	
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Date)			Execution Date,		Code (Ins	Transaction Code (Instr. 3, 4			Beneficia Owned Fo	Formula (D) (I) (I) (I)		m: Direct or Indirect nstr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership				
						Code	<i>,</i>	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Reported Transaction (Instr. 3 a	on(s)			(Instr. 4)		
	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)	rivative Conversion Date Execution Date, Tracturity or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any Co		e, Trai	insaction Derivative E		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)		10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)			
				Cod	e V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Ex _i Da	piration te	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	unt (Instr. 4)		ion(s)		
Non- qualified Stock Option ⁽¹⁾	\$39	02/17/2004		A		105,000		(2)	02/	/17/2014	Common Stock	105,000	\$39	105,000	0(3)	D	

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Employee stock option (right to buy) granted pursuant to the Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings 2000 Stock Incentive Plan.
- $2. \ The \ option \ vests \ in \ three \ equal \ installments \ beginning \ on \ February \ 17, \ 2005.$
- 3. Amount shown reflects a 2-for-1 stock split effective on May 10, 2002.

/s/ Bradford T. Smith, Attorneyin-Fact for Wesley R. Elingburg 02/19/2004

** 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.