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UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 4

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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:	3235-0287						
Estimated average burde	en						
hours per response:	0.5						

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>MITTELSTAEDT ROBERT E JR</u>			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol LABORATORY CORP OF AMERICA	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X Director 10% Owner				
			HOLDINGS [LH]		Officer (give title	Other (specify		
(Last) 430 SOUTH SPE	(First) RING STREET	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 09/01/2004		below)	below)		
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	vidual or Joint/Group Filing	r Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable			
BURLINGTON	NC	27215		X	ting Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)			Form filed by More than Person	One Reporting		
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned								

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Transaction Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 an Code (Instr. 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	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	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		(1130.4)
Common Stock	09/01/2004		A		41 ⁽¹⁾	Α	\$40.5	7,883 ⁽²⁾	D	

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) 7. Title and 9. Number of 1. Title of 6. Date Exercisable and 3. Transaction 3A. Deemed 5. Number 8. Price of 10. 11. Nature Derivative Security (Instr. 3) Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) Conversion Execution Date Transaction Amount of Derivative derivative Ownership of Indirect Date (Month/Day/Year) of Derivative Code (Instr. 8) Securities Security (Instr. 5) or Exercise if anv Securities Form: Beneficial Beneficially Owned Price of Derivative (Month/Day/Year) Securities Underlying Direct (D) Ownership (Instr. 4) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) Acquired Derivative (A) or Disposed Following Reported Security Security (Instr. 3 and 4) of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)

Date

Exercisable

Expiration

Date

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.

(A) (D)

2. Amount shown reflects a 2-for-1 stock split effective on May 10, 2002.

<u>By: /s/ BRADFORD T.</u>

Amount or Number

Shares

of

Title

<u>SMITH, Attorney-in-Fact for</u> 09/02/2004 <u>Robert E. Mittelstaedt</u>

** 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).

Code V

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.