FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL										
OMB Number:	3235-0287									
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0.5

hours per response:

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

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1. Name and	LA	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										
	. <u>HC</u>	HOLDINGS [LH]								X	Officer	r (give title		Other (s						
(Last)	(Firs	st) (f		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/30/2003									below)	EVP, CFO, Tree						
(Street)						4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)								6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)						
(City)	(City) (State) (Zip)														X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
		Tabl	eI-	Non-Deriv	/ative	Seci	uritie	es A	cquir	ed, D	isposed o	f, or E	Benefic	ially	Owned					
Date			2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/	Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		ite,	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and			Beneficially Following R		Form ly Owned (D) o Reported (I) (In		: Direct r Indirect str. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership		
					Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price		Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)				(Instr. 4)					
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾ 12/30/200					003)3			М		9,200	A	\$26.7031(4)		183,559.8738 ⁽²⁾			D		
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾ 12/30/2000)3			S		9,200	D	\$37	'.5	174,359.8738 ⁽²⁾			D		
		T	able								sposed of, , converti				Owned					
Derivative (Security ((Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	Exec if any	Deemed ution Date, / th/Day/Year)		Transaction Code (Instr.		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		ate Exer ration D nth/Day/		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Secu (Instr. 3 and 4)		S (1	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number derivative Securities Beneficiall Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4)	ly	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exer	cisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amo or Num of Shar	ber						
Non- qualified	\$26,7031	12/30/2003			М			9 200	08/1	7/2003	08/17/2010	Commo	on 9.2	00 .	326 7 031 ⁽⁴⁾	9 200		D		

Explanation of Responses:

Options⁽¹⁾⁽³⁾

- 1. Pursuant to a plan in compliance 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.
- $3. \ Common \ Stock \ purchase \ option \ granted \ under \ the \ Laboratory \ Corporation \ of \ America \ Holdings \ 2000 \ Stock \ Incentive \ Plan.$
- $4.\ Actual\ exercise\ price\ was\ \$26.703125.\ The\ Edgar\ system\ truncates\ the\ price\ to\ only\ four\ decimal\ places.$

/s/ Bradford T. Smith, Attorneyin-Fact for Wesley R. Elingburg 12/31/2003

** 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.

 $Persons \ who \ respond \ to \ the \ collection \ of \ information \ contained \ in \ this \ form \ are \ not \ required \ to \ respond \ unless \ the \ form \ displays \ a \ currently \ valid \ OMB \ Number.$