FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

l	OMB APPROVAL											
	OMB Number:	3235-0287										
l	Estimated average burden											
l	hours per response:	0.5										

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

1. Name and SMITH	LA	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol LABORATORY CORP OF AMERICA HOLDINGS [ LH ]								elationship of eck all applic Directo  Officer below)	able)	g Perso	10% Ov Other (s	vner				
(Last) 430 SOUT		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2004								,	Chf Lega	l Offc	,	r <b>y</b>				
(Street) BURLINGTON NC 27215  (City) (State) (Zip)					4. If	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)  6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Line)  X Form filed by One Reporting Perform filed by More than One Reperson											ting Perso	n
		Tabl	e I - N	on-Deriv	vative	Sec	uriti	es Ac	quire	d, Di	sposed of	f, or Be	neficiall	y Owned				
Da				2. Transac Date (Month/Da	n/Day/Year) it		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 a				lly Owned Reported	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Direct Indirect str. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
									Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction (Instr. 3 and				(Instr. 4)
Common S	Stock <sup>(1)</sup>	2004	004			М		1,928	Α	\$33.062	5 99,925	.1481(2)	D					
Common S	2004	)04			M		5,608	A	\$39.34	105,533	.1481(2)		D					
Common Stock <sup>(1)</sup> 12/31/20						)04			S		7,536	D	\$50	97,997	.1481(2)		D	
		Т	able II								posed of, convertib			Owned				
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	if any	emed ion Date, /Day/Year)	4. Transa Code ( 8)				6. Date Exerc Expiration Da (Month/Day/Y		ite	7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Numbe derivative Securities Beneficial Owned Following Reported Transactie (Instr. 4)	e s ully g	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercis	sable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares					
Non- qualified Stock Options <sup>(1)(3)</sup>	\$33.0625	12/31/2004			M			1,928	02/05/2	2002 <sup>(4)</sup>	02/05/2011	Common Stock	1,928	\$33.0625	15,55	6	D	
Non- qualified Stock	\$39.34	12/31/2004			M			5,608	01/07/2	2003 <sup>(4)</sup>	01/07/2012	Common Stock	5,608	\$39.34	43,59	2	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.

## By: /s/ BRADFORD T. SMITH 01/04/2005

\*\* 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.