FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Washington, D.C. 20049

OMB APPROVAL										
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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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* Watson Craig M					LA	ABC		ORY	Y C			ymbol <u>AMEF</u>	(Ch	eck all applic	able) r	g Person(s) to Issi 10% Ov Other (s		ner		
(Last) 200 SOU	,	rst) IER STREET	(Middle)			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/12/2004											Officer (give title below)		below)	респу
(Street) CHICAC		tate)	60606 (Zip)		4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check AplLine) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person								orting Persor	1						
Table I - Non-Deriva 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transa Date (Month/D			saction	ear)	ZA. Deemed Execution Date, If any (Month/Day/Year)			3. Transact Code (In 8)	tion	4. Securities Acquired (A Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 5)			I (A) or	5. Amou Securitie Beneficia	nt of s ally following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
Common	Common Stock 05				.2/200	14				Code	v	Amount 1,288	([A) or D)	Price	Transact (Instr. 3	tion(s)		D	(1130.4)
Common	Otock	-	Гable II -	Deriva	ative	Sec				ed, Di			or B	enef	ficially		-00			
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deeme Execution I if any (Month/Day	Date,	Code (Inst		5. Num of Deriva Securi Acquir (A) or Dispos of (D) (Instr.: and 5)	tive ties ed sed	6. Date Exercisal Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)				7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Securi (Instr. 3 and 4)			8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Numbe derivative Securities Beneficia Owned Following Reported Transacti (Instr. 4)	e s Illy	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Dat Exe	e ercisable		xpiration ate	Title		Amount or Number of Shares					
Non- qualified Stock	\$38.8	05/12/2004			A		1,984		05/2	12/2005 ⁽²	0	5/12/2014	Comm		1,984	\$38.8	1,984	1	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 May 12, 2005.

/s/ Bradford T. Smith,

Attorney-in-Fact for Craig M. 05/14/2004

Watson

** 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.