FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| OMB APPROVAL |          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:  | 3235-028 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

87 Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

| Check this box if no longer subject to |
|--|
| Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5           |
| obligations may continue. See          |
| Instruction 1(h)                       |

## 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 2 Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*                     |  |      |           |                  | LA                                  | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol LABORATORY CORP OF AMERICA HOLDINGS [ LH ] |         |  |                   |                                      |   |   |                               |   | Check al  | applicab<br>Director  |   |   | erson(s) to Issuer<br>10% Owner                                    |   |  |
|--|--|------|-----------|------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---------|--|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle)                                      |  |      |           |                  |                                     | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/01/2004                            |         |  |                   |                                      |   |   |                               |   |   | officer (give title elow)   |   | Other (specify below)   |  | specify   |  |
| (Street)   |  |      |           |                  |                                     | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                               |         |  |                   |                                      |   |   |                               |   | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person |   |   |   |  |   |  |
| (City) (State) (Zip)   |  |      |           |                  |                                     |  |         |  |                   |                                      |   |   |                               |   | Form filed by More than One Reporting<br>Person   |   |   |   |  |   |  |
|  |  | Tabl | e I - Non | -Deriv           | ative                               | Sec  | curitie | s Acc  | quired,           | Dis                                  | posed o   | f, or                                       | Bene                          | efici                                       | ally O  | vned  |   |   |  |   |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transa Date (Month/Date) |  |      |           |                  |                                     | Execution I<br>ay/Year) if any   |         | ution Date, Tran   |                   | Transaction Disposed Code (Instr. 5) |   | ities Acquired (A)<br>d Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 |                               |   | nd Se<br>Be   | Amount of curities eneficially when Followers   | ,   | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) |  | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |  |
|  |  |      |           |                  |                                     | Code   | v       | Amount   | (                 | A) or<br>D)                          | Price   | Transact                                    |                               |   |   |   | (111311. 4)   |   |  |   |  |
| Common Stock 07/01/  |  |      |           |                  |                                     | /2004  |         |  | A                 |                                      | 41(1)   | A :   |                               | \$40  | 0.6   | 18,574 <sup>(2)</sup>   |   | D   |  |   |  |
|  | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |      |           |                  |                                     |  |         |  |                   |                                      |   |   |                               |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)          | ative Conversion Date Execution Date, Tran<br>ity or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any Cod  |      |           | Transa<br>Code ( | ansaction of ode (Instr. Derivative |  |         | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                   |                                      | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr.<br>and 4) |   |                               | 8. Price<br>Derivat<br>Securit<br>(Instr. 5 | y Secu<br>Secu<br>Ben<br>Own<br>Follo<br>Rep<br>Tran  | lumber of<br>ivative<br>urities<br>leficially<br>ned<br>owing<br>lorted<br>nsaction(s<br>tr. 4) | Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) |   | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |   |  |
|  |  |      |           |                  | Code                                | v  | (A)     | (D)  | Date<br>Exercisal |                                      | Expiration<br>Date  | Title                                       | Amo<br>or<br>Nun<br>of<br>Sha | ber   |   |   |   |   |  |   |  |

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

/s/ Bradford T. Smith, Attorney-in-Fact for Wendy E. 07/06/2004 Lane

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

- $^{\star}$  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.