FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

OMB APPROVAL	
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37 Estimated average burden 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)

or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol LABORATORY CORP OF AMERICA Watson Craig M Director 10% Owner HOLDINGS [LH] Officer (give title Other (specify below) below) (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 200 SOUTH WACKER STREET 07/01/2004 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) (Street) **CHICAGO** IL60606 Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transaction 2A. Deemed 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature Transaction **Execution Date** Securities Form: Direct of Indirect if any Code (Instr. 8) (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) (Month/Day/Year 5) Beneficially Beneficial (Month/Dav/Year) Owned Following Ownership Reported (Instr. 4) (A) or (D) Transaction(s) Code Amount Price (Instr. 3 and 4) Common Stock 07/01/2004 Α $20^{(1)}$ Α \$40.39 1.349 D Common Stock 41(1) 07/01/2004 A Α \$40.6 1,390 D Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) 1. Title of 3. Transaction 3A. Deemed 5. Number 6. Date Exercisable and 7. Title and 8. Price of 9. Number of 11. Nature Conversion Transaction Ownership Derivative Execution Date **Expiration Date** Amount of Derivative derivative of Indirect (Month/Day/Year) Security or Exercise Price of if any (Month/Day/Year) Code (Instr. Derivative (Month/Day/Year) Securities Security (Instr. 5) Securities Form: Direct (D) Beneficial (Instr. 3) 8) Beneficially Securities Underlying Ownership Derivative Acquired Derivative Owned or Indirect (Instr. 4) (A) or Disposed Security (Instr. 3 (I) (Instr. 4) Security and 4) Reported of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 Transaction(s

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.

and 5)

(A) (D) Date

/s/ Bradford T. Smith,

Amount Number

Attorney-in-Fact for Craig M. 07/06/2004

(Instr. 4)

Watson

Title

Expiration

** 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.