ELINGBURG WESLEY R

Form 4

December 30, 2004

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB 3235-0287

OMB APPROVAL

Number:

Expires:

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

Check this box

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

See Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading ELINGBURG WESLEY R Issuer Symbol LABORATORY CORP OF (Check all applicable) AMERICA HOLDINGS [LH] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner _X__ Officer (give title _ Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) 430 SOUTH SPRING STREET 12/28/2004 **EVP & Chief Financial Officer** (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting **BURLINGTON, NC 27215** Person

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tak	ole I - Non-	Derivativ	e Seci	ırities Acqu	ired, Disposed of, o	or Beneficially	Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		sed of 4 and (A) or	` ′	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock (1)	12/28/2004		M	3,125	A	\$ 33.0625	102,358.2792 (2)	D	
Common Stock (1)	12/28/2004		M	8,200	A	\$ 39.34	110,558.2792 (2)	D	
Common Stock (1)	12/28/2004		S	3,125	D	\$ 50	107,433.2792 (2)	D	
Common Stock (1)	12/28/2004		S	8,200	D	\$ 50	99,233.2792 (2)	D	

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not (9-02)

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amo Underlying Secu (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	An or Nu of Sh
Non-qualified Stock Options (1) (3)	\$ 33.0625	12/28/2004		M	3,125	02/05/2002(4)	02/05/2011	Common Stock	3
Non-qualified Stock Options (1) (5)	\$ 39.34	12/28/2004		M	8,200	01/07/2003(4)	01/07/2012	Common Stock	8

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

ELINGBURG WESLEY R 430 SOUTH SPRING STREET BURLINGTON, NC 27215

EVP & Chief Financial Officer

Signatures

By: /s/ BRADFORD T. SMITH, Attorney-in-Fact for Wesley R. Elingburg

12/30/2004

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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).
- (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 1999 Amended and Restated Stock Incentive Plan.
- (4) The option vests in three equal installments beginning on the date reflected in this column.

Reporting Owners 2

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(5) Common stock purchase option granted under the Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings 2000 Stock Incentive Plan. Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, <i>see</i> Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.