



Issue Date: 07 December 2009

Case No.: 2009-SOX-00048

In the Matter of

HAMPTON HAUCKE,

Complainant,

v.

LABORATORY CORPORATION
OF AMERICA HOLDINGS,

Respondent.

**DECISION AND ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT
AND CANCELLING SCHEDULED HEARING**

This matter arises under the employee protection provision of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, 18 U.S.C. §1514A, and its implementing regulations found at 29 C.F.R. Part 1980. On November 6, 2009, the parties submitted a Joint Motion for Dismissal with Prejudice to which was attached a Settlement Agreement and Release.

The regulations permit voluntary settlements if the administrative law judge approves; in such cases, the approved settlement constitutes the final order of the Secretary and may be enforced as such. Specifically, 29 C.F.R. §1980.111(d)(2) states:

At any time after the filing of objections to the Assistant Secretary's findings and/or order, the case may be settled if the participating parties agree to a settlement and the settlement is approved by the administrative law judge if the case is before the judge. . .

Under 29 C.F.R. § 1980.111(e), a settlement approved by the administrative law judge, as a final order of the Secretary, may be enforced pursuant to Section 1980.113.

I have carefully reviewed the terms of the Agreement and find the Agreement is fair, adequate, and voluntary.

ORDER

The Settlement Agreement is **APPROVED** and the Complaint is **DISMISSED** with prejudice. Hearing scheduled for **February 22, 2010 at 9:00a.m.** in **Greensboro, North Carolina** is hereby **CANCELLED**.

A

KENNETH A. KRANTZ
Administrative Law Judge

KAK/mrc