

ABBOTT LABORATORIES  
Form 8-K  
January 20, 2006

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**  
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

January 16, 2006

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

**ABBOTT LABORATORIES**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Illinois**  
(State or other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

**1-2189**  
(Commission File Number)

**36-0698440**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**100 Abbott Park Road**

**Abbott Park, Illinois 60064-6400**

(Address of principal executive offices)(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(847) 937-6100**

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers.**

On January 20, 2006, Abbott Laboratories announced that W. James Farrell, chairman of Illinois Tool Works Inc., was named to the Abbott Board of Directors, effective January 16, 2006. Mr. Farrell will serve on the Compensation and the Nominations and Governance Committees of the Board of Directors. A copy of the press release announcing the election of Mr. Farrell is furnished as Exhibit 99.1.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(c) Exhibits

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>
99.1	Press Release, dated January 20, 2006

**Signatures**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**Abbott Laboratories**

Date: January 20, 2006

By: /s/ Thomas C. Freyman  
Thomas C. Freyman  
Executive Vice President,  
Finance and Chief Financial  
Officer

**Exhibit Index**

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>
99.1	Press Release, dated January 20, 2006