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LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INC

Form 4 March 09, 2016

FORM 4

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

OMB agas

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF
section 16.

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

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * HIGGINS JOHN L			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INC [LGND]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
(Last) 11119 NORT ROAD, SUIT		(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/07/2016	X Director 10% Owner Superior Other (specify below) below) Chief Executive Officer
LA JOLLA, O	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ 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
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date 2A. Deer	med 3.	4. Securities Acquired (A) 5. Amount of	6. 7. Nature

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. 4. Securities Acquired (A) Transactiomr Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8) (A) or			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
			Code V	Amount	(D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock	03/07/2016		S	10,277	D	\$ 102.44 (1)	120,220	D	
Common Stock	03/07/2016		S	556	D	\$ 102.97 (2)	119,664	D	
Common Stock	03/08/2016		M	6,000	A	\$ 21	125,664	D	

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number one 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 Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Incentive Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 21	03/08/2016	03/08/2016	M	6,000	<u>(3)</u>	02/23/2018	Common Stock	6,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
r	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
HIGGINS JOHN L						
11119 NORTH TORREY PINES ROAD, SUITE 200	X		Chief Executive Officer			
LA JOLLA, CA 92037						

Signatures

By: Charles S. Berkman For: John L.
Higgins
03/09/2016

**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).
- The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from (1) \$101.81 to \$102.79, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide, upon request to the Securities Exchange Commission staff, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer full information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the transaction was effected.
- The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from (2) \$102.83 to \$102.99, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide, upon request to the Securities Exchange Commission staff, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer full information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the transaction was effected.

Reporting Owners 2

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(3) Grant to reporting person of options, exercisable over a 4-year period measured from the date of grant, 12-1/2% after six months, then 1/48th of the Option Shares per month thereafter. The date of grant is 2/23/08.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* 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.