

HIGGINS JOHN L  
Form 4  
January 22, 2018

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2015  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

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

(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) (First) (Middle)  
3911 SORRENTO VALLEY  
BOULEVARD, STE 110  
  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
01/19/2018

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Chief Executive Officer

SAN DIEGO, CA 92121

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 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 Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Price   |  |   |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | Code  | V   | Amount   |   |
| Common Stock                    | 01/19/2018                           |  | M                              | (1)   | 16,249  | A  | \$ 16.14 162,299 D                                    |
| Common Stock                    | 01/19/2018                           |  | S                              | (1)   | 16,249  | D  | \$ 155 146,050 D                                      |
| Common Stock                    | 01/19/2018                           |  | S                              | (1)   | 11,850  | D  | \$ 151.9246 134,200 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

SEC 1474 (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 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)      | \$ 16.14   | 01/19/2018                           | 01/19/2018   | M                              | 16,249<br><u>(1)</u>  | <u>(3)</u>   | 02/15/2019  | Common Stock | 16,249                     |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |                         |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                 | Other |
| HIGGINS JOHN L<br>3911 SORRENTO VALLEY BOULEVARD, STE 110<br>SAN DIEGO, CA 92121 | X             |           | Chief Executive Officer |       |

## Signatures

By: Charles S. Berkman For: John L. Higgins  
Date: 01/22/2018

\_\_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) The sale reported on this Form 4 was made pursuant to a written trading plan adopted by the Reporting Person on December 20, 2017, in accordance with Rule 10b5-1.  
The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from
- (2) \$150.81 to \$152.24, 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.
- (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 2/15/09.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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