Korenberg Matthew E Form 4 August 29, 2018

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

(Last)

(City)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

Korenberg Matthew E

(Middle)

3911 SORRENTO VALLEY

BOULEVARD, STE 110

(Street)

(State)

(First)

(Zip)

Symbol

INC [LGND]

(Month/Day/Year)

08/29/2018

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

(Check all applicable)

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

EVP, Finance & Strategy and CFO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

SAN DIEGO, CA 92121

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1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. 4. Securities Acquired (A) or TransactiorDisposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)				5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
			Code V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	(I) (Instr. 4)	
Common Stock	08/29/2018		M	11,540	A	\$ 85.79	25,099	D	
Common Stock	08/29/2018		S	18,357	D	\$ 256.6901 <u>(1)</u>	6,742	D	

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

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of

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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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative 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
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 85.79	08/29/2018	08/29/2018	M	11,540	(2)	02/11/2026	Common Stock	11,540

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Korenberg Matthew E

3911 SORRENTO VALLEY BOULEVARD, STE EVP,Finance & Strategy and CFO

110 C SAN DIEGO, CA 92121

Signatures

Matthew E. Worenberg 08/29/2018

**Signature of Date Reporting Person

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 \$256.218 to \$257.170, 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.
- (2) Grant to reporting person of options to purchase shares of common stock ("Option Shares"), 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 02/11/16.

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.

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