

LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INC
 Form 4
 May 14, 2015

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 DeSilva Nishan M

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INC [LGND]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)
 ___ Director ___ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below)
 VP, Finance & Strategy and CFO

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 11119 NORTH TORREY PINES ROAD, SUITE 200
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 05/12/2015

LA JOLLA, CA 92037

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	05/12/2015		M	14,214	A	\$ 14.47	36,496 D
Common Stock	05/12/2015		S	14,214	D	\$ 84.44	22,282 D
Common Stock	05/12/2015		M	9,306	A	\$ 21.92	31,588 D
Common Stock	05/12/2015		S	9,306	D	\$ 84.91	22,282 D
Common Stock	05/13/2015		M	12,148	A	\$ 21.92	34,430 D

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Common Stock	05/13/2015	S	12,148	D	\$ 83.23	22,282	D
Common Stock	05/13/2015	M	11,757	A	\$ 14.47	34,039	D
Common Stock	05/13/2015	S	11,757	D	\$ 83.32	22,282	D
Common Stock	05/14/2015	M	20,938	A	\$ 74.42	43,220	D
Common Stock	05/14/2015	S	20,938	D	\$ 83.84	22,282	D

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

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(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. 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)	Amount or Number of Shares	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 14.47	05/12/2015		M	14,214	<u>(1)</u>	02/09/2022	Common Stock	14,214
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 14.47	05/13/2015		M	11,757	<u>(1)</u>	02/09/2022	Common Stock	11,757
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 21.92	05/12/2015		M	9,306	<u>(2)</u>	02/15/2023	Common Stock	9,306
	\$ 21.92	05/13/2015		M	12,148	<u>(2)</u>	02/15/2023		12,148

Employee Stock Option (right to buy)								Common Stock	
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 74.42	05/14/2015	M	20,938	(3)	02/12/2024		Common Stock	20,938

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
DeSilva Nishan M 11119 NORTH TORREY PINES ROAD, SUITE 200 LA JOLLA, CA 92037			VP, Finance & Strategy and CFO	

Signatures

Nishan M. de
Silva 05/14/2015

**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) 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 02/09/12.
- (2) 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 02/15/13.
- (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 02/12/14.

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.