

Korenberg Matthew E
 Form 4
 August 29, 2018

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 *
 Korenberg Matthew E

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)
 EVP, Finance & Strategy and CFO

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 08/29/2018

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
				Code	V	Amount	
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 6,742 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)

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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
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 85.79	08/29/2018	08/29/2018	M	11,540	<u>(2)</u>	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 110 SAN DIEGO, CA 92121			EVP, Finance & Strategy and CFO	

Signatures

Matthew E. Korenberg
08/29/2018
Date

**Signature of 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).
- (1) 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.