

DeSilva Nishan M  
Form 4  
February 13, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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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)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
11085 NORTH TORREY PINES  
ROAD, SUITE 300  
  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
02/09/2012

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
VP, Corporate Development

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock	02/09/2012	02/09/2012	A	10,000 A \$ 0	10,000	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)**

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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)	Date Exercisable		Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
								(1)			
Incentive Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 14.47	02/09/2012	02/09/2012	A	30,765			(1)	02/09/2022	Common Stock	30,765
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 14.47	02/09/2012	02/09/2012	A	44,235			(1)	02/09/2022	Common Stock	44,235
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 14.47	02/09/2012	02/09/2012	A	15,000			(2)	02/09/2022	Common Stock	15,000

### Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
DeSilva Nishan M 11085 NORTH TORREY PINES ROAD, SUITE 300 LA JOLLA, CA 92037			VP, Corporate Development	

### Signatures

By: John P. Sharp For: Nishan M. de Silva                                  02/13/2012  
 \*\*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 Optioned Shares per month thereafter.
- (2) Grant to reporting person of options will fully vest on the third anniversary of the grant date.

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.