

DeSilva Nishan M
Form 4
February 13, 2012

FORM 4

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

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
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(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

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

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

(Street)
LA JOLLA, CA 92037

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
X 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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	02/09/2012	02/09/2012	A		10,000	A	\$ 0 10,000

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
required to respond unless the form
displays a currently valid OMB control
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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)	7. Title and Amount Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Amount or Number of Shares
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.

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