

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

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**FORM 8-K**

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**CURRENT REPORT  
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): October 6, 2017**

**LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**001-33093**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**77-0160744**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**3911 Sorrento Valley Boulevard, Suite 110**  
**San Diego, CA**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**92121**  
(Zip Code)

**(858) 550-7500**  
(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

**N/A**  
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425) or Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.12b-2).

- Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

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**Item 8.01. Other Events.**

On October 6, 2017, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the previously announced Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated October 4, 2017 (the “Merger Agreement”), Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated (“Ligand”) closed its acquisition of Crystal Bioscience, Inc. (“Crystal”). In connection with the closing, Ligand will pay approximately \$25 million in initial merger consideration in cash (subject to certain adjustments) and Crystal became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ligand.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED

Date: October 9, 2017

By: /s/ Charles Berkman  
Name: Charles Berkman  
Title: Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary