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<SROS>NASDAQ
<REPORTING-OWNER>

0001182615

Officer

</REPORTING-OWNER>

<SUBJECT-COMPANY>

Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated

0000886163

<IRS-NUMBER>77-0160744

</SUBJECT-COMPANY>

<PERIOD>04/29/03

4

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

FORM 4

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person(s)

Maier, Paul V.

10275 Science Center Drive

San Diego, California 92121

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated (LGND)

3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (Voluntary)

4. Statement for Month/Day/Year

04/29/2003

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)

6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner

Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

Senior Vice President,

Chief Financial Officer

7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)

Form filed by One Reporting Person

Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

<TABLE>

<CAPTION>

Table I Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1) Title of Security	2) Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/Year)	3) Trans- action or Code V	4) Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) A or Amount	5) Amount of Securities D or Price	6) Amount of Indirect Beneficial Ownership End of Month I	7) Nature of Ownership
<S> Common Stock	<C> 09/30/02	<C> J	<C> 827	<C><C> A \$5.7800	<C> D	<C><C> Direct
Common Stock	03/31/03	J	1,176	A \$4.6495	52,989	D Direct
Common Stock				8,595	I	by Spouse

<CAPTION>

Table II (PART 1) Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (Columns 1 through 6)

1) Title of Derivative Security	2) Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3) Trans- action Date Code V	4) Trans- action or Disposed of (D) A	5) Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) D Exercisable	6) Date Exercisable and Expiration Date Expiration
<S> Incentive Stock Option (right to buy)	<C> \$9.2500	<C> 04/29/03	<C> A	<C> 75,000	<C> (1) 04/29/13

<CAPTION>

Table II (PART 2) Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (Columns 1,3 and 7 through 11)

1) Title of Derivative Security	2) Transaction Date	3) Trans- action of Underlying Securities	7) Title and Amount of Underlying	8) Price of Derivative Security	9) Number of Derivative Securities D	10) Indirect Beneficial or Ownership	11) Nature of
-	Title		Amount or Number of Shares	Owned at End of Month	I		
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
Incentive Stock Option (right to buy)		04/29/03	Common Stock	75,000	75,000		D Direct

<FN>
 Explanation of Responses:

(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 4/29/03.

</FN>
 </TABLE>
 SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON
 /S/ By: Barbara J. Olson
 For: Paul V. Maier
 DATE 05/01/03