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<SROS>NASDAQ
<REPORTING-OWNER>
0001182617
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)
Pettit, William A.
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)
Sr. V-P, Human Resources and
Administration

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 Disposed of (D) Code V	4) Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) A or D Price	5) Amount of Securities D or Ownership End of Month I	6) Amount of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	7) Nature of
Common Stock	12/31/02	J	130 A \$4.5645			D Direct
Common Stock	03/31/03	J	128 A \$4.6495	258		D Direct

<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 D	5) Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) D Exercisable	6) Date Exercisable and Expiration Date Expiration
Incentive Stock Option (right to buy)	\$9.2500	04/29/03 J	A 50,000		(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) Number of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	11) Nature of
			Amount or Number of Shares	Owned at End of Month			

<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
Incentive Stock Option (right to buy)		04/29/03	Common Stock	50,000		50,000	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: William A. Pettit
DATE 05/01/03