

# FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL	
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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 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * <b>MAIER PAUL V</b>		2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <b>LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INC [LGND]</b>		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) ____ Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) _____ 10% Owner ____ Other (specify below) <b>Sr. V-P, CFO</b>	
(Last) (First) (Middle) 10275 SCIENCE CENTER DRIVE		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 09/08/2004			
(Street) SAN DIEGO, CA 9121		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person ____ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person	
(City) (State) (Zip)		<b>Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned</b>			

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	09/08/2004		M		11,638	A	\$ 8.6466	64,703	D	
Common Stock	09/08/2004		M		24,607	A	\$ 9.10	89,310	D	
Common Stock								8,595	I	by Spouse

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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 of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V		Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					
Incentive Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 8.6466	09/08/2004		M		11,638	(1) 09/13/2004	Common Stock	11,638	(2)	0	D	
Incentive Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 9.10	09/08/2004		M		24,607	(3) 09/14/2004	Common Stock	24,607	(2)	0	D	

### Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
MAIER PAUL V 10275 SCIENCE CENTER DRIVE SAN DIEGO, CA 9121			Sr. V-P, CFO	

### Signatures

By: Barbara J. Olson For: Paul V. Maier	09/08/2004
<small>Signature of Reporting Person</small>	<small>Date</small>

### 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 Option Shares per month thereafter. The date of grant is 9/13/94.
- (2) The transaction is the exercise of a derivative security. No price applies.
- (3) 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 9/14/94.

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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