

Sabba Stephen L
 Form 4
 May 27, 2010

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, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 Sabba Stephen L

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)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 05/25/2010

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

DORSET MANAGEMENT
 CORP, 485 UNDERHILL BLVD
 SUITE 205

(Street)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

SYOSSET, NY 11791

(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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (D) | Price |
| Restricted Common Stock ⁽¹⁾ | 05/25/2010 | | A | | 5,000 | A | \$ 0 |
| | | | | | 20,000 | D | |

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

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 (9-02)

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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares of Underlying Security |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 1.43 | 05/25/2010 | | A | 15,000 | (2) 05/25/2011 | Common Stock | 15,000 |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Sabba Stephen L
DORSET MANAGEMENT CORP
485 UNDERHILL BLVD SUITE 205
SYOSSET, NY 11791

X

Signatures

/s/ Stephen L.
Sabba

05/27/2010

**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).

The restricted stock represented in Column I of Table I (a) represents, for each share thereof, a contingent right to receive one share of (1) common stock of the Company, (b) was acquired by a grant of the Board of Directors of the Company at their annual meeting on May 25, 2010, and (c) vests in twelve successive equal monthly installments from the date of grant.

The option represented in Column I of Table II (a) was acquired by a grant of the Board of Directors of the Company at their annual (2) meeting on May 25, 2010, and (b) vests in twelve successive equal monthly installments upon completion of each calendar month of service from the date of grant.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.