

LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INC
Form 425
January 08, 2010

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): January 7, 2010

LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of

001-33093
(Commission File Number)

77-0160744
(I.R.S. Employer

Incorporation or Organization)

11085 North Torrey Pines Road, Suite 300, La Jolla, California, 92037

Identification No.)

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(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (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))

Item 8.01 Other Events.

On January 7, 2010, Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated (Ligand or the Company) issued a press release announcing that the Company has received a \$1 million milestone payment from N. V. Organon (Organon), a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc. (Merck), stemming from its research collaboration that expired on December 31, 2009. A copy of this press release is included as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 99.1 | Press Release of the Company dated January 7, 2010. |

SIGNATURES

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

LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED

Date: January 8, 2010

By: /s/ CHARLES S. BERKMAN
Name: **Charles S. Berkman**
Title: **Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary**

EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
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