



DIVISION OF
CORPORATION FINANCE

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

February 22, 2012

Via E-mail

Mr. Charles S. Berkman
Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary
Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated
11085 North Torrey Pines Road, Suite 300
La Jolla, California 92037

Re: Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated
Item 4.02 Form 8-K
Filed February 7, 2012
File No. 001-33093

Dear Mr. Berkman:

We have completed our review of your filing. We remind you that our comments or changes to disclosure in response to our comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the company or the filings and the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States. We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filings to be certain that the filings include the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable rules require.

Sincerely,

/s/ Joel Parker

Joel Parker
Accounting Branch Chief