FORM 3

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

| OMB APPROVAL             |                   |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:              | Number: 3235-0104 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average burden |                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| hours per response:      | 0.5               |  |  |  |  |  |

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| Pienta Kenneth   | 2. Date of Event<br>Requiring Statemen<br>Month/Day/Year)<br>12/18/2017 |                | 3. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol  Cue Biopharma, Inc. [ CUE ]             |  |   |   |   |  |  |
|--|---|----------------|---|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 675 W. KENDALL STREET  |   |                | Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)     Director 10% Owner |  | (Mo   | 5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)    |   |  |  |
|  |   |                | X Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)  |  |   | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) |   |  |  |
| (Street)   |   |                | Chief Medical Officer   |  |   | X Form filed by One Reporting Person                        |   |  |  |
| CAMBRIDGE MA 02142   |   |                |   |  |   | Form filed by Reporting P                                   | y More than One<br>erson                                    |  |  |
| (City) (State) (Zip)   |   |                |   |  |   |   |   |  |  |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned   |   |                |   |  |   |   |   |  |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)  |   |                | Amount of Securities<br>eneficially Owned (Instr. 4)  |  |   | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)       |   |  |  |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |   |                |   |  |   |   |   |  |  |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)   | 2. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year)          |                | 3. Title and Amount of Securities<br>Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)              |  | 4.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of | 5.<br>Ownership<br>Form:                                    | 6. Nature of Indirect<br>Beneficial Ownership<br>(Instr. 5) |  |  |
|  | Date Ex<br>Exercisable Da   | piration<br>te | Title   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares | Derivative<br>Security                      | Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 5)                 |   |  |  |
| Stock Options  | 11/16/2017 11/  | /16/2023       | Common Stock  | 20,000                                 | 2.86  | D   |   |  |  |
| Stock Options  | (1) 04/   | /17/2024       | Common Stock  | 150,000                                | 5   | D   |   |  |  |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

 $1.\ These\ Stock\ Options\ become\ exercisable\ in\ four\ equal\ annual\ installments\ beginning\ December\ 31,\ 2017.$ 

## Remarks:

/s/ Kenneth Pienta by Mark Busch, as attorney-in-fact

12/27/2017

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5 (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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.

(For Executing Form ID and Forms 3, 4 and 5)

Know all by these presents, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints Mark R. Busch, of K&L Gates LLP, and Colin Sandercock, upon his employment by Cue Biopharma, Inc. (the "Company"), signing individually, the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys in fact and agents to:

- (1) Prepare, execute in the undersigned's name and on the undersigned's behalf, and submit to the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") a Form ID, Uniform Application for Access Codes to File on EDGAR, including amendments thereto, and any other documents necessary or appropriate to obtain codes and passwords enabling the undersigned to make electronic filings with the SEC of reports required by Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or any rule or regulation thereunder;
- (2) Prepare, execute in the undersigned's name and on the undersigned's behalf, and submit to the SEC Forms 3, 4 and 5 (including amendments thereto and joint filing agreements in connection therewith) in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act and the rules thereunder in the undersigned's capacity as an officer, director or beneficial owner of more than 10% of a registered class of securities of the Company;
- (3) Do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned that may be necessary or desirable to prepare and execute any such Form 3, 4 or 5 (including amendments thereto and joint filing agreements in connection therewith) and file such forms with the SEC and any stock exchange, self-regulatory association or any similar authority; and
- (4) Take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing that, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required of the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by the attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as the attorney-in-fact may approve in the attorney-in-fact's discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to such attorney in fact full power and authority to do and perform any and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary, or proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution or revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney in fact, or such attorney in fact's substitute or substitutes, shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorney-in-fact, and their substitutes, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, are not assuming (nor is the Company assuming) any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Section 16 of the Exchange Act.

This Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the earliest to occur of (a) the undersigned is no longer required to file Forms 3, 4 and 5 with respect to the undersigned's holdings of and transactions in securities issued by the Company, (b) revocation by the undersigned in a signed writing delivered to the Company and the foregoing attorneys in fact or (c) as to any attorney-in-fact individually, until such attorney-in-fact is no longer employed by K&L Gates LLP or the Company, as applicable.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of the date written below.

Date: December 13, 2017

By: /s/ Kenneth Pienta Name: Kenneth Pienta