

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Release No. 94589 / April 4, 2022

WHISTLEBLOWER AWARD PROCEEDING
File No. 2022-46

In the Matter of the Claims for an Award

in connection with

Redacted

Notice of Covered Action ^{Redacted}

ORDER DETERMINING WHISTLEBLOWER AWARD CLAIMS

The Claims Review Staff (“CRS”) issued Preliminary Determinations recommending that ^{Redacted} (“Claimant 1”) receive a whistleblower award of ^{Redacted} percent (^{***} %) of the monetary sanctions collected, or to be collected, in the above-referenced Covered Action (“Covered Action”), equal to a current payment of approximately \$160,000, and that ^{Redacted} (“Claimant 2”) receive a whistleblower award of ^{***} percent (^{***} %) of the monetary sanctions collected, or to be collected, in the Covered Action, equal to a current payment of approximately \$80,000. Neither claimant contested the award amounts.

The recommendation of the CRS is adopted. The record demonstrates that Claimant 1 and Claimant 2 both voluntarily provided original information to the Commission, and that their information led to the successful enforcement of the Covered Action.¹

Redacted

¹ See Exchange Act Section 21F(b)(1), 15 U.S.C. § 78u-6(b)(1); Exchange Act Rule 21F-3(a), 17 C.F.R. § 240.21F-3(a). Both Claimant 1 and Claimant 2 provided “independent analysis” to the Commission. Their examination and evaluation of publicly available information revealed information that was not already known or available to the public. See Exchange Act Rule 21F-4(b)(3).

Redacted

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In recommending the award allocation, we note that the record reflects that Claimant 1's information, together with Claimant 2's information, caused the opening of the investigation and was an underlying source that formed the basis for the Covered Action. Further, Claimant 1 provided additional information and assistance to the Enforcement staff by submitting a detailed written narrative that provided a roadmap for the investigative staff early in the investigation that conserved significant Commission staff time and resources. While Claimant 2's information also was important in that it helped Commission staff identify the wrongdoing, the helpfulness of Claimant 2's information was more limited as compared to Claimant 1's information and assistance.

2 Redacted

3 Redacted

4 Redacted

5 Redacted

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED that Claimant 1 shall receive an award equal to ^{Redacted} percent (^{***} %) and Claimant 2 shall receive an award equal to ^{***} percent (^{***} %) of the monetary sanctions collected, or to be collected, in the Covered Action.

By the Commission.

Vanessa A. Countryman
Secretary