

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Release No. 95537 / August 18, 2022

WHISTLEBLOWER AWARD PROCEEDING
File No. 2022-77

In the Matter of the Claims for an Award

in connection with

Redacted

Notice of Covered Action: Redacted

Redacted

Notice of Covered Action Redacted

ORDER DETERMINING WHISTLEBLOWER AWARD CLAIMS

The Claims Review Staff (“CRS”) issued Preliminary Determinations recommending that the Commission grant an award of over \$1,500,000, equal to ^{Redacted} percent (^{***} %) to joint whistleblowers ^{Redacted} (together, “Claimant 1”)¹ and an award of almost \$800,000 to ^{Redacted} (“Claimant 2”), equal to ^{***} percent (^{***} %) of the monetary sanctions collected in ^{Redacted} (together “the Covered Actions”). Claimant 1 and Claimant 2 provided written notice of their decisions not to contest the Preliminary Determinations.

¹ We have determined to treat Claimant 1 jointly as a “whistleblower” for purposes of the award determination given that their tip was submitted on behalf of both of them and they submitted their Forms WB-APP together via the same counsel. *See* Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”) Section 21F(a)(6) (defining a “whistleblower” to include two or more individuals acting jointly who provide information relating to a violation of the securities laws to the Commission). Our proceeding in this way has not impacted the total award percentage to Claimant 1. Unless Claimant 1, within ten (10) calendar days of the issuance of this Order, makes a joint request, in writing, for a different allocation of the award between the two of them, the Office of the Whistleblower is directed to pay each of them individually 50% of their joint award.

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

Redacted

We find the award allocation is appropriate. While both Claimant 1 and Claimant 2 provided information that, in part, caused the opening of the investigation, Claimant 1 provided more ongoing helpful information and assistance to the Enforcement staff as compared to Claimant 2.

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

By the Commission.

Vanessa A. Countryman
Secretary