

FINAL ORDER – THIS PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION BECAME THE FINAL ORDER OF THE COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO CLAIMANT 1 ON MAY 11, 2020 PURSUANT TO RULE 21F-10(f) OF THE EXCHANGE ACT

Notice of Covered Action [REDACTED]

**PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION OF THE CLAIMS REVIEW STAFF**

In response to the above-referenced Notice of Covered Action, the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) received two whistleblower award claims. Pursuant to Section 21F of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange Act”) and Rule 21F-10 promulgated thereunder, the Claims Review Staff has evaluated each of these claims in accordance with the criteria set forth in Rules 21F-1 through 21F-17. The Claims Review Staff sets forth its Preliminary Determination for each award claimant as follows.

[REDACTED] (Claimant 1)

The Claims Review Staff has preliminarily determined to recommend that the Commission deny an award to Claimant 1. The basis for this determination is as follows:

1. Claimant 1’s information was not original information that led to a successful enforcement action pursuant to Rule 21F-3(a) and -4(b) of the Exchange Act because:
  - a. Information provided by Claimant 1 was already known to the Commission from another source;<sup>1</sup> or
  - b. Information provided by Claimant 1 was not based on Claimant 1’s independent knowledge or independent analysis.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> In making this preliminary determination, we note that the record reflects that prior to receiving Claimant 1’s tip, the Commission’s staff was aware that [REDACTED] based on two previous tips submitted by others to the Commission. None of the information in Claimant 1’s tip that was derived from Claimant 1’s independent knowledge materially added to the Commission’s knowledge about [REDACTED]. After providing the tip, Claimant 1 did not provide any additional information or have further communications with Enforcement staff responsible for the Covered Action.

<sup>2</sup> We preliminarily find that the publicly available web posting to which Claimant 1 referred the Commission in Claimant 1’s tip, [REDACTED], did not reflect Claimant 1’s independent knowledge or independent analysis.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

By: Claims Review Staff

Date: March 12, 2020

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[REDACTED]