Notice of Covered Action

PRELIMINARY DETERMINATIONS OF THE CLAIMS REVIEW STAFF

In response to the above-referenced Notice of Covered Action, the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") received whistleblower award claims from [redacted] and jointly from [redacted] (Claimant 2), and [redacted] (Claimant 3).¹

Pursuant to Section 21F of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") and Rule 21F-10 promulgated thereunder, the Claims Review Staff has evaluated the claims in accordance with the criteria set forth in Rules 21F-1 through 21F-17.

¹ Claimants 2 and 3 are being treated as joint claimants herein because they submitted their tips jointly and their WB-Apps are functionally identical.
Claimants 2 and 3

The Claims Review Staff has preliminarily determined to recommend that the Commission deny awards to Claimants 2 and 3. Claimants 2 and 3 did not provide original information that led to a successful enforcement action pursuant to Section 21F(b)(1) of the Exchange Act and Rule 21F-3(a) promulgated thereunder, because the information Claimants 2 and 3 provided did not, under Rule 21F-4(c)(1) of the Exchange Act: (1) cause the Commission to (a) commence an examination, open or reopen an investigation, or inquire into different conduct as part of a current Commission examination or investigation, and (b) thereafter bring an action based, in whole or in part, on conduct that was the subject of Claimant 2’s or Claimant 3’s information, or (2) significantly contribute to the success of a Commission judicial or administrative enforcement action under Rule 21F-4(c)(2) of the Exchange Act. The Covered Action arose out of an examination by the Commission’s Office of Compliance Inspections and Examinations, and information provided by Claimants 2 and 3 had no bearing on the timing of or conduct of that examination. Neither the examination team nor Division of Enforcement staff who subsequently investigated the matter received or used Claimant 2’s or Claimant 3’s information, which did not relate to the firm being examined and investigated.

By: Claims Review Staff
Date: October 15, 2020