

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
before the
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Release No. 89780 / September 8, 2020

WHISTLEBLOWER AWARD PROCEEDING
File No. 2020-29

In the Matter of the Claim for an Award

in connection with

Redacted

Notice of Covered Action ^{Redacted}

ORDER DETERMINING WHISTLEBLOWER AWARD CLAIM

The Claims Review Staff (“CRS”) issued a Preliminary Determination recommending that ^{Redacted} (“Claimant”) receive a whistleblower award of almost \$30,000, which is ^{***} of the monetary sanctions collected in Covered Action ^{Redacted} (the “Covered Action”). Claimant provided written notice of Claimant’s decision not to contest the Preliminary Determination.¹

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

Applying the award criteria in Rule 21F-6 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to the specific facts and circumstances here, we find the proposed award amount is appropriate.³ In

¹ The Preliminary Determination of the CRS also recommended denying an award to a second claimant (“Claimant 2”), who did not seek reconsideration. Accordingly, the Preliminary Determination has become the Final Order of the Commission with respect to Claimant 2 pursuant to Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”) Rule 21F-10(f), 17 C.F.R. § 240.21F-10(f).

² 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).

³In assessing the appropriate award amount, Exchange Act Rule 21F-6 provides that the Commission consider: (1) the significance of information provided to the Commission; (2) the assistance provided in the Commission action; (3) law enforcement interest in deterring

reaching that determination, we positively assessed the following facts: (1) The information provided by the Claimant was significant as it alerted Enforcement staff to the violations, which would have been difficult to detect in the absence of Claimant's information and bore a close nexus to the Commission's charges; (2) Claimant provided exemplary assistance to the Enforcement staff, saving Commission resources and accelerating the pace of the investigation; (3) The underlying Enforcement action was programmatically significant; and (4) The amounts available for collection in the matter were limited.

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED that Claimant shall receive an award of almost \$30,000, which is *** of the monetary sanctions collected or to be collected in the Covered Action.

By the Commission.

Vanessa A. Countryman
Secretary

violations by granting awards; (4) participation in internal compliance systems; (5) culpability; (6) unreasonable reporting delay; and (7) interference with internal compliance and reporting systems. 17 C.F.R. § 240.21F-6.