ORDER DETERMINING WHISTLEBLOWER AWARD CLAIM

The Claims Review Staff (“CRS”) issued a Preliminary Determination recommending that Redacted (“Claimant”) receive a whistleblower award of nearly $1.8 million, equal to *** percent (***%) of the monetary sanctions collected in the above-referenced Covered Action, relating to Redacted (the “Covered Action”).1 Claimant provided written notice of Claimant’s decision not to contest the Preliminary Determination.2

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.3

1 We are treating Redacted as part of a single Covered Action under Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”) Rule 21F-4(d)(1) because they arise out of the same nucleus of operative facts.

2 The Preliminary Determination of the CRS also recommended denying an award to a second claimant, who did not request reconsideration. As such, the preliminary denial of that award claim is now deemed to be the Final Order of the Commission.

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. In reaching that determination, we positively assessed the following facts: Claimant, a company insider, provided a detailed whistleblower tip that alerted Commission staff to the alleged wrongdoing, which would have been difficult to detect in the absence of Claimant’s information; Claimant provided extraordinary assistance to the Commission staff; Claimant raised Claimant’s concerns internally in an effort to remedy the conduct; and the law enforcement interests are high as Claimant’s information and assistance helped return money to harmed investors.

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED that Claimant shall receive an award of *** percent (*** %) of the monetary sanctions collected or to be collected in the Covered Action.

By the Commission.

Vanessa A. Countryman
Secretary

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4 In 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 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.