

FINAL ORDER – THIS PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION BECAME THE FINAL ORDER OF THE COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO FOUR CLAIMANTS ON JANUARY 7, 2020 PURSUANT TO RULE 21F-10(f) OF THE EXCHANGE ACT

**PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION OF THE CLAIMS REVIEW STAFF**

In response to the above-referenced Notice of Covered Action, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission received whistleblower award claims from [REDACTED] (collectively, “Claimants”).

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 the above claims in accordance with the criteria set forth in Rules 21F-1 through 21F-17. The Claims Review Staff has preliminarily determined to recommend that the Commission deny the above award claims. The basis for this determination is as follows:

Claimants did not provide information that led to the successful enforcement of the above-referenced Covered Action within the meaning of Section 21F(b)(1) of the Exchange Act and Rules 21F-3(a)(3) and 21F-4(c) thereunder because the information provided did not:

1. cause the Commission to (i) commence an examination, (ii) open or reopen an investigation, or (iii) inquire into different conduct as part of a current Commission examination or investigation (and thereafter bring an action based, in whole or in part, on that different conduct) under Rule 21F-4(c)(1) of the Exchange Act; 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.

In reaching this preliminary recommendation, we note that the record reflects that the investigative staff responsible for the Covered Action declared that none of the Claimants provided any information that was helpful to or used in the above-referenced Covered Action or the related investigation.<sup>1</sup>

By: Claims Review Staff

Date: September 27, 2019

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<sup>1</sup> Because Claimants do not qualify for an award in the Covered Action brought by the Commission, any claims for award they made in connection with various purported related actions cannot succeed. A related action award may be made only if, among other things, the claimant satisfies the eligibility criteria for an award for the applicable covered action in the first instance. See 15 U.S.C. § 78u-6(b); Exchange Act Rule 21F-3(b), Rule 21F-3(b)(1); Rule 21F-11(a).