

**FINAL ORDER – THIS PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION BECAME THE FINAL ORDER
OF THE COMMISSION ON FEBRUARY 17, 2020
PURSUANT TO RULE 21F-10(f) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

Notice of Covered Action: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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 a joint whistleblower award claim from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] collectively "Claimants").¹

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 claim 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 claim. 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 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 investigation was opened based on a referral from examination staff. Neither examination staff nor investigative staff responsible for the Covered Action received any information from, or had any communications with, Claimants, and as such, Claimants did not provide any information that was used by or had any impact on the staff's examination, investigation or the Covered Action.

By: Claims Review Staff

Date: December 16, 2019

¹ We are treating [REDACTED] joint claimants as their whistleblower award applications are functionally identical and were submitted together, and the tips upon which they base their award claims were jointly submitted.