
In the Matter of Claims for Award by:)
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 Redacted (“Claimant 1”),)
 Redacted ;)
)
 Redacted (“Claimant 2”),) CFTC Whistleblower Award
 Redacted ;) Determination No. 19-WB-02
)
 Redacted (“Claimant 3”),)
 Redacted ,)
 Redacted ,)
 Redacted ;)
)
 Redacted (“Claimant 4”),)
 Redacted ; and)
)
 Redacted (“Claimant 5”),)
 Redacted)
)
 In Connection With)
 Notice of Covered Action No. Redacted)
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)

ORDER DETERMINING WHISTLEBLOWER AWARD CLAIMS

The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“Commission”) received whistleblower award applications from five claimants in response to the Commission’s Notice of Covered Action No. Redacted regarding Redacted “Covered Action”) and a related action, Redacted (“Related Action”) brought by Redacted (“Federal Regulator”). The Claims Review Staff (“CRS”) issued a Preliminary Determination recommending that Claimant 1 receive a whistleblower award in the amount of *** percent (***) of the monetary sanctions collected in the Covered Action and the Related Action. This recommended award percentage would yield a payment of \$***, based on the funds recovered in the Covered Action and Related Action to date.

The recommendation of the CRS with respect to Claimant 1 is adopted. We find that the record demonstrates that he/she voluntarily provided original information to the Commission that led to the successful enforcement of the Covered Action pursuant to Section 23(b)(1) of the Commodity Exchange Act (“CEA” or “Act”). 7 U.S.C. § 26(b)(1) (2012). The information Claimant 1 provided was sufficiently specific, credible, and timely to cause the Commission to

¹ Redacted has fully paid the \$ Redacted ordered in connection with the Covered Action, and Redacted has fully paid the \$ Redacted ordered in connection with the Related Action. Accordingly, a **% award would yield Claimant 1 a payment of \$ Redacted based on the amounts collected.

open an investigation. The Commission then brought a successful covered action based in part on conduct that was the subject of the original information provided by Claimant 1. The information provided by Claimant 1 was directly incorporated into strategy involving witness interviews, and his/her early assistance saved Commission resources through his/her explanation of a complex scheme. Claimant 1 also appears to have attempted to report his/her concerns internally ^{Redacted} prior to reporting to the Commission and the Federal Regulator, which also weighs in favor of a high-percentage award.

We also find that Claimant 1's information led to the successful resolution of the Related Action brought by the Federal Regulator because the action was based, at least in part, on the original information that Claimant 1 voluntarily submitted to the Commission, and led to the successful resolution of the Commission action. *See* 7 U.S.C. § 26(a)(5); 17 C.F.R. § 165.11.

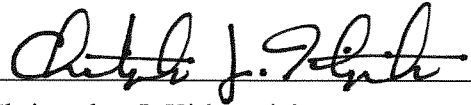
In addition, the Preliminary Determination recommended that the award applications submitted by four other Claimants be denied. The Preliminary Determination found that the information provided by Claimant 2, Claimant 3, Claimant 4, and Claimant 5 was not useful to the Commission's investigation and, therefore, did not lead to the successful enforcement of the Covered Action. On or about ^{Redacted}, Claimant 4 submitted a letter and appended several documents in response to the Preliminary Determination. The CRS reviewed Claimant 4's response to the Preliminary Determination and confirmed that the information provided by Claimant does not relate to the Covered Action or Related Action. We agree with the CRS's determination; accordingly, Claimant 4's claim is denied.

The other three Claimants—Claimant 2, Claimant 3, and Claimant 5—failed to submit a request for reconsideration of the Preliminary Determination, and, therefore, the Preliminary Determination denying their claims for award has become the Final Order of the Commission. 17 C.F.R. § 165.7(h) (2018).

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED that Claimant 1 shall receive an award of *** percent (***) of the monetary sanctions collected in the Covered Action and in the Related Action; and it is further ORDERED that Claimant 4's whistleblower award claim be, and hereby is, denied.

By the Commission.

CONFIDENTIAL NON - PUBLIC VERSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris J. Kirkpatrick", written over a horizontal line.

Christopher J. Kirkpatrick
Secretary of the Commission
Commodity Futures Trading Commission
1155 21st Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20581

Dated: May 6, 2019