PUBLIC VERSION

FINAL ORDER – THIS PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION BECAME THE FINAL ORDER OF THE COMMISSION ON MAY 28, 2026, PURSUANT TO SECTION 165.7(h) OF THE WHISTLEBLOWER RULES, 17 C.F.R. PART 165, ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 23 OF THE COMMODITY EXCHANGE ACT, 7 U.S.C. § 26.

In the Matter of Claims for Award by: Redacted In Connection with Notice of Covered Action No. ***	CFTC Whistleblower Award Determination No. 26-WB-19

PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION OF THE CLAIMS REVIEW STAFF

The Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("Commission") received whistleblower award applications from Claimant 1, Claimant 2, and Claimant 3 (collectively, "Claimants") submitted in response to the above-referenced Notice of Covered Action. The corresponding enforcement action is Redacted

("Order" or "Covered Action"). The Order filed and settled charges against

Redacted

The Claims Review Staff ("CRS") evaluated Claimants' award claims in accordance with the Commission's Whistleblower Rules ("Rules"), 17 C.F.R. pt. 165, promulgated pursuant to Section 23 of the Commodity Exchange Act, 7 U.S.C. § 26. The CRS sets forth its Preliminary Determination as follows:

1. The CRS recommends that the Commission deny all three applications because they do not meet the requirements for an award. To meet award requirements, a claimant must have voluntarily provided original information that led to the successful enforcement of a covered judicial or administrative action. 17 C.F.R. § 165.5(a). CFTC Division of Enforcement ("Division") staff responsible for the Covered Action ("Case Team") did not use any of the Claimants' information, and none of the Claimants' information was helpful to Authority.

2. The investigation leading to the Covered Action began on or about Redacted Redacted was initiated because of a referral from Authority, not because of information from any of the Claimants. Authority learned from Redacted

3. The CFTC Case Team did not use any of the Claimants' information. In fact, none of the Claimants' information appears in the case file for the Covered Action. Staff who worked on Authority's matter confirmed that none of the Claimants' information was helpful. Staff stated that key information relating to Respondent came from *** not any of the Claimants.

4. With respect to Respondent's conduct in the Covered Action, Claimant 1 did not give the Commission original information that was sufficiently specific, credible, and timely to cause the Commission staff to commence an examination, open an investigation, reopen an

investigation that the Commission had closed, or to inquire concerning different conduct as part of a current examination or investigation. Claimant 1 asserts that he/she provided information about Redacted

Claimant 1 does not claim he/she provided specific information concerning Respondent. By Redacted the CFTC and Authority were already aware of Respondent's violations. Moreover, Claimant 1's more general information Redacted was already known to both Authority and the Commission. Authority's staff confirmed Claimant 1 was not helpful to Authority's case. Accordingly, Claimant 1 did not provide information that contributed to the success of the Covered Action.

5. With respect to Respondent's conduct in the Covered Action, Claimant 2 did not give the Commission original information that was sufficiently specific, credible, and timely to cause the Commission staff to commence an examination, open an investigation, reopen an investigation that the Commission had closed, or to inquire concerning different conduct as part of a current examination or investigation. Claimant 2's whistleblower award application sets forth in detail communications he/she had with CFTC staff regarding Redacted

was not an actionable lead regarding Respondent's misconduct. Accordingly, Claimant 2 did not provide information that contributed to the success of the Covered Action.

6. With respect to Respondent's conduct in the Covered Action, Claimant 3 did not give the Commission original information that was sufficiently specific, credible, and timely to cause the Commission staff to commence an examination, open an investigation, reopen an investigation that the Commission had closed, or to inquire concerning different conduct as part of a current examination or investigation. Claimant 3 asserts that *** entitled to an award for Redacted

Such information was already known to CFTC staff. Authority's staff confirmed Claimant 3 was not helpful to Authority's case. Accordingly, Claimant 3 did not provide information that contributed to the success of the Covered Action.

7. All Claimants applied for awards on Authority's action against Respondent. The CRS recommends denying these claims as well. A related action must be "based on the original information that the whistleblower voluntarily submitted to the Commission and led to a successful resolution of the Commission judicial or administrative action." 17 C.F.R. § 165.11(a)(2). None of the Claimants provided information that led to the successful enforcement of the Covered Action. Accordingly, no claimant is eligible for a related action award.

By: Whistleblower Claims Review Staff
Commodity Futures Trading Commission

Dated: February 4, 2026