## **Press Release**

## SEC Awards More Than \$54 Million to Two Whistleblowers

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 2018-179

Washington D.C., Sept. 6, 2018 — The Securities and Exchange Commission is awarding \$39 million to one whistleblower and \$15 million to another whose critical information and continued assistance helped the agency bring an important enforcement action. The \$39 million award is the second-largest award in the history of the SEC's whistleblower program.

"Whistleblowers serve as invaluable sources of information, and can propel an investigation forward by helping us overcome obstacles and delays in investigation," said Jane Norberg, Chief of the SEC's Office of the Whistleblower. "These substantial awards send a strong message about the SEC's commitment to whistleblowers and the value they bring to the agency's mission."

The SEC has awarded more than \$320 million to 57 individuals since issuing its first award in 2012. All payments are made out of an investor protection fund established by Congress that is financed entirely through monetary sanctions paid to the SEC by securities law violators. No money has been taken or withheld from harmed investors to pay whistleblower awards. Whistleblowers may be eligible for an award when they voluntarily provide the SEC with original, timely, and credible information that leads to a successful enforcement action. Whistleblower awards can range from 10 percent to 30 percent of the money collected when the monetary sanctions exceed \$1 million.

By law, the SEC protects the confidentiality of whistleblowers and does not disclose information that might directly or indirectly reveal a whistleblower's identity.

For more information about the whistleblower program and how to report a tip, visit www.sec.gov/whistleblower.

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