

[Securities Regulation Daily Wrap Up, WHISTLEBLOWER NEWS—CFTC announces its first ever award to a foreign whistleblower, \(Jul. 16, 2018\)](#)

Securities Regulation Daily Wrap Up

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The CFTC announced its first ever whistleblower award to an individual living in a foreign country, awarding over \$70,000 for that person's significant contribution to an ongoing CFTC investigation. While disclosing the whistleblower's identity and the factual circumstances surrounding the claim are barred by 2010 Dodd-Frank legislation creating the program, the CFTC noted this is sixth award granted under the program ([CFTC Whistleblower Award Determination No. 18-WB-1](#), July 16, 2018).

Recent actions. The announcement also comes on the heels of [the agency's recent action involving a \\$30 million whistleblower award](#), the largest in the CFTC's history. That matter, along with the current whistleblower award, have been made under the newly CFTC's enhanced whistleblower rules, which seek to bolster anti-retaliation protections for whistleblowers and improve the process for claims review, [according to the Commission](#).

The DOE Director weighs in. CFTC Division of Enforcement Director James McDonald had this to say about the current award: "This award is significant because it signals to whistleblowers around the world that anyone with information about potential violations of the Commodity Exchange Act can participate in the CFTC's Whistleblower Program." "The award also serves as another example of the increasing significance of whistleblowers in our enforcement program, a trend I expect to continue going forward," he added.

Notable program features. Under the applicable provision of the Dodd-Frank Act, whistleblowers are eligible to receive between 10 percent and 30 percent of the monetary sanctions collected. The CFTC can pay awards not only on CFTC enforcement actions but also related actions brought by foreign futures authorities, if certain conditions are met.

All whistleblower awards are paid from the CFTC Customer Protection Fund established by Congress and financed entirely through monetary sanctions paid to the CFTC by violators of the CEA. No money is taken or withheld from harmed investors to fund the program.

Additional information about the CFTC's whistleblower program can be found at www.whistleblower.gov, including how to provide a tip or apply for an award.

The proceeding is [CFTC Whistleblower Award Determination No. 18-WB-1](#).

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