

How to find and select the right qui tam attorney for your whistleblower reward case under the qui tam provisions of the False Claims Act

This article outlines the importance of and tips for selecting a *qui tam* attorney to file your whistleblower reward application under the *qui tam* provisions of the False Claims Act.

Why the right *qui tam* attorney is important

Because the whistleblower reward rules are complex and the government turns away 80% of *qui tam* reward applications, selecting your *qui tam* attorney can be one of the most important decisions you must make.

The *qui tam* whistleblower reward is between 15-25% of the amount the government recovers based on you hiring a *qui tam* attorney and filing a *qui tam* lawsuit under the False Claims Act. If you have the right type of case and get it right, the average whistleblower award is \$1 million. But if you get it wrong, you can get little or nothing. Therefore you want to have an experienced *qui tam* attorney.

Roles of your *qui tam* attorney under the *qui tam* provisions of the False Claims Act and tips for selecting the right *qui tam* attorney

There are several critical roles played by your *qui tam* attorney. First your *qui tam* attorney must know how to properly assess and develop your *qui tam* application. Your attorney must be very familiar with the *qui tam* provisions of the False Claims Act because the *qui tam* reward statute is very complicated and there are many landmines to avoid. At a minimum, you should select a *qui tam* attorney that has handled many *qui tam* False Claims Act cases.

Second, your *qui tam* attorney needs to understand the informal process and have experience working with the government attorneys that decide whether to take cases your case and who determine how much of a reward to pay you. The Civil Fraud Section of the Department of Justice (DOJ) in Washington, D.C. is the nationwide government office overseeing the *qui tam* whistleblower reward program. Even if your *qui tam* attorney did not work for the Civil Fraud Section of DOJ or a local U.S. Attorney's Office that often handles these cases jointly with DOJ, your *qui tam* attorney must have a good relationship with the attorneys from these government offices that will be handling your case. Your *qui tam* attorney not only needs to file a complex *qui tam* lawsuit, but must also convince DOJ to intervene or take the case. Later, your *qui tam* attorney will also need to negotiate the amount of any *qui tam* award.

Third, selecting your *qui tam* attorney involves a matter of personal preference. Because the average *qui tam* case lasts over 3 years, you should be communicating a lot with your False Claims Act attorney. Certainly you want to have confidence in your *qui tam* attorney when they

make assessments of your case. But you also should respect and even like your *qui tam* attorney. For instance, you should not feel bad about contacting them with questions. Your *qui tam* attorney's role should not simply be providing legal advice, but should also be caring and mindful of the human aspects of representing a whistleblower. Therefore, do your homework when determining how to find and select the right *qui tam* attorney for your whistleblower reward case under the *qui tam* provisions of the False Claims Act.

How to ask The Hesch Firm to become your *qui tam* attorney

Mr. Hesch would be pleased to review in complete confidence your potential *qui tam* case. You can read his extensive 15-year experience as an attorney working for the Civil Fraud Section of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) in the *qui tam* reward office and on *qui tam* False Claims Act cases. Mr. Hesch now exclusively represents whistleblowers file *qui tam* cases and seek rewards.

Visit his website at www.HowToReportFraud.com to find out if Mr. Hesch Find out if Mr. Hesch is the right *qui tam* attorney for you and help you file your whistleblower reward application under the *qui tam* provisions of the False Claims Act.