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GOVERNMENT FILES COMPLAINT IN LANDIS QUI TAM ACTION

SAN FRANCISCO, California, April 23, 2013. The U.S. Department of Justice filed its complaint today in the whistleblower action Mr. Landis initiated in 2010 outlining extensive doping by the U.S. Postal Service Pro Cycling Team. “Mr. Landis is pleased to see the United States take this important step toward recovering taxpayer dollars lost to fraud,” said Mr. Landis’ attorney Paul Scott.

Certain of the defendants have publicly contended on more than one occasion that the United States was not damaged, pointing to media coverage around Mr. Armstrong’s ill-gotten TDF victories. But the United States has specifically stated it was “ignorant” of the falsity of the cycling team’s denials of doping allegations when it paid out tens of millions of dollars to the team. “It plainly does more damage than good to the policies, programs and international standing of the United States for it to be associated with a cycling team that dopes to win. The fact that the team’s fraud was concealed for many years does not take away from the fact that the United States was harmed. Even if the USPS received some ephemeral media exposure in connection with Mr. Armstrong’s false victories, any illusory benefit from those times will be swamped over time immemorial by the USPS forever being tied to the largest doping scandal in the history of sports,” Scott said.