FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Andrea Fischer, Esq. Fischer Legal Group afischer@fischerlegalgroup.com www.fischerlegalgroup.com 212 328 0142

WHISTLEBLOWER CASE BROUGHT BY FISCHER LEGAL GROUP CLIENT AGAINST NY/NJ PORT AUTHORITY VENDORS SETTLES FOR \$13 MILLION

New York (October 19, 2017): The Attorney General for the State of New York settled a New York State False Claims Act *qui tam* action, brought by Andrea Fischer and handled by Andrea Fischer and Audrey Schechter of Fischer Legal Group, on behalf of its client whistleblower, against Port Authority food vendors.

The suit was filed in 2015 by Andrea Fischer in the New York State Supreme Court, New York County, and was ably and successfully pursued by the New York State Attorney General's taxpayer fraud division office.

The suit alleged that Defendants ran various food concessions for years in JFK Terminal 1. The payments to the Port Authority for these concessions were, in part, based on the revenue the concessions earned. When airline traffic increased dramatically at the terminal, Defendants did not increase their payments to the Port Authority, or pay higher taxes, but instead, set up a scheme wherein payments for food and drinks paid in cash were not included in the amounts reported to the government or the Port Authority.

The settlement was obtained under the New York State False Claims Act. Ms. Fischer of Fischer Legal Group stated, "New York's *qui tam* statute tax provisions allow whistleblowers to bring fraud into focus that otherwise would never have been addressed."

Ms. Fischer further stated, "Thanks to my client's efforts to right a wrong, Defendants have been held accountable for their wrongs. We at Fischer Legal Group are proud to have assisted the Relator and the Government in reaching this important victory. It is an excellent example of the private-public partnership at work."

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Fischer Legal Group is a boutique law firm focusing on the prosecution of *qui tam* (whistleblowing) litigation, as well as complex litigation, throughout the United States. Ms. Fischer and Ms. Schechter are both licensed in New York and Florida. For more information about the Fischer Legal Group and the provisions of the False Claims Act, please see our website: www.fischerlegalgroup.com, email us at afischerlegalgroup.com, or call us at 212 328 0142.