

**Basis for Closing
National Science Board Meeting on January 7, 2013**

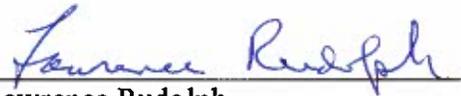
On January 4, 2013 the Executive Committee of the National Science Board voted to close the teleconference meeting of the Executive Committee scheduled for January 7, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. and determined that no earlier notice was possible. Board Members Drs. Suresh, Arvizu, Droegemeier, Lineberger and Souvaine participated in the e-mail polling of the Executive Committee.

All members voted "yes" to close all the meetings on January 4, 2013.

The Board Members and National Science Board Office staff including the Executive Officer and Board Counsel will attend the closed teleconference meeting. The justification for closing the meeting is provided in the attached certificate.

C E R T I F I C A T E

It is my opinion that the teleconference meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Science Board (NSB) scheduled for January 7, 2013, regarding the Board's review of the impartiality of the merit review process for Board Member Dr. Geri Richmond's grant proposal may properly be closed to the public under 5 U.S.C. § 552b(c)(6).

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lawrence Rudolph". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Lawrence Rudolph
General Counsel
National Science Foundation