



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A03070040

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This case involved several subjects and several allegations with regard to an award that was terminated at the awardee's request.

Two of the subjects are no longer in the positions they held when the alleged activities took place. The first is a NSF program officer¹ who investigated matters that should have been referred to the OIG several months previously. This subject is no longer at NSF and the allegations will not be pursued further. The second is a retired university official.² Although this individual appears to have been involved in a proposed plan within the university to use federal funds as part of its cost-sharing obligation, the plan was not implemented. Thus, there is insufficient substance to or need to proceed with any allegations involving this official.

There is inadequate support for any allegation involving a second university official³ despite his preventing the expenditure of NSF funds for the project and his endorsement of the plan to use NSF funds for cost sharing, because no NSF funds were used as cost sharing on this award. However, the university subunit in which this official administered the award appears to have had previous difficulty in compliance with grant conditions. Therefore, we are referring these issues to audit for review.

With regard to the PI and the Co-PIs, there is insufficient substance to proceed with an allegation of false statement with regard to the annual report. First, they appear to have accomplished what they claimed in the annual report. Second, although their report did not indicate any of the difficulties in award administration that ultimately resulted in termination, the program office was aware that problems existed and that termination was a likely possibility at the time it approved additional funding.

As there is insufficient substance to proceed further with these allegations, this case is **closed**.

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at the time the alleged activities took place.