



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A12100071

Page 1 of 1

A program officer¹ at NSF under the Intergovernmental Personal Act (IPA) allegedly violated the conflict of interests (COI) rules by suggesting that a PI² on an award³ he recommended for funding contact someone at his new home institution⁴ for advice on revising the proposed budget. The program officer was originally at NSF on assignment from a different institution,⁵ which was terminating his contract. At the time he made the suggestion to the PI, he was in the process of being hired by his new home institution located near the PI's institution, thereby creating the appearance of a COI. The program officer in his short time at NSF demonstrated a failure to understand the COI rules, and NSF consequently decided to terminate his IPA assignment before the end of the first year. Thus, NSF has taken steps to protect its funding decision-making process and no further consideration of this allegation is warranted.

Accordingly, this case is closed.

1
2
3
4
5

[Redacted content]