



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-20-0014-O

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Our office received an allegation that an NSF peer reviewer copied text from a proposal she reviewed into her new NSF proposal. We confirmed that there was a small amount of similar text, but it was mostly phrases. We wrote to the subject to get her perspective on the allegation.

In her response, the subject stated that she was reviewing the proposal at the time that she began writing her new proposal. She stated that she was trying to be cognizant of not transferring words or ideas from the proposal she was reviewing into her proposal.

Based on the evidence, we conclude that the subject's actions did not rise to the level of research misconduct nor did it rise to the level of a violation of peer review confidentiality. We determined that we would send the subject a Questionable Research Practice letter.

This case is **closed** with no further action taken.