



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I14090031

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We received an allegation that an SBIR grantee may have misspent NSF award funds and used a consultant to perform most of the work on its awards, in violation of the SBIR program rules.

We reviewed internal NSF documents, records from the grantee, and records from the PI's other employer.

We did not substantiate any allegations of misuse of NSF funds or other misconduct regarding performance of the awards. We did find, however, that for a short period of time the PI served on an award while 50% employed by his other employer. While technically in violation of SBIR primary employment requirements, we did not refer this matter to the Department of Justice because the certifications associated with the primary employment violation occurred outside of the statute of limitation period. We issued a letter to the grantee reiterating the importance of following all NSF award terms and conditions going forward.

This case is closed with no further action taken.