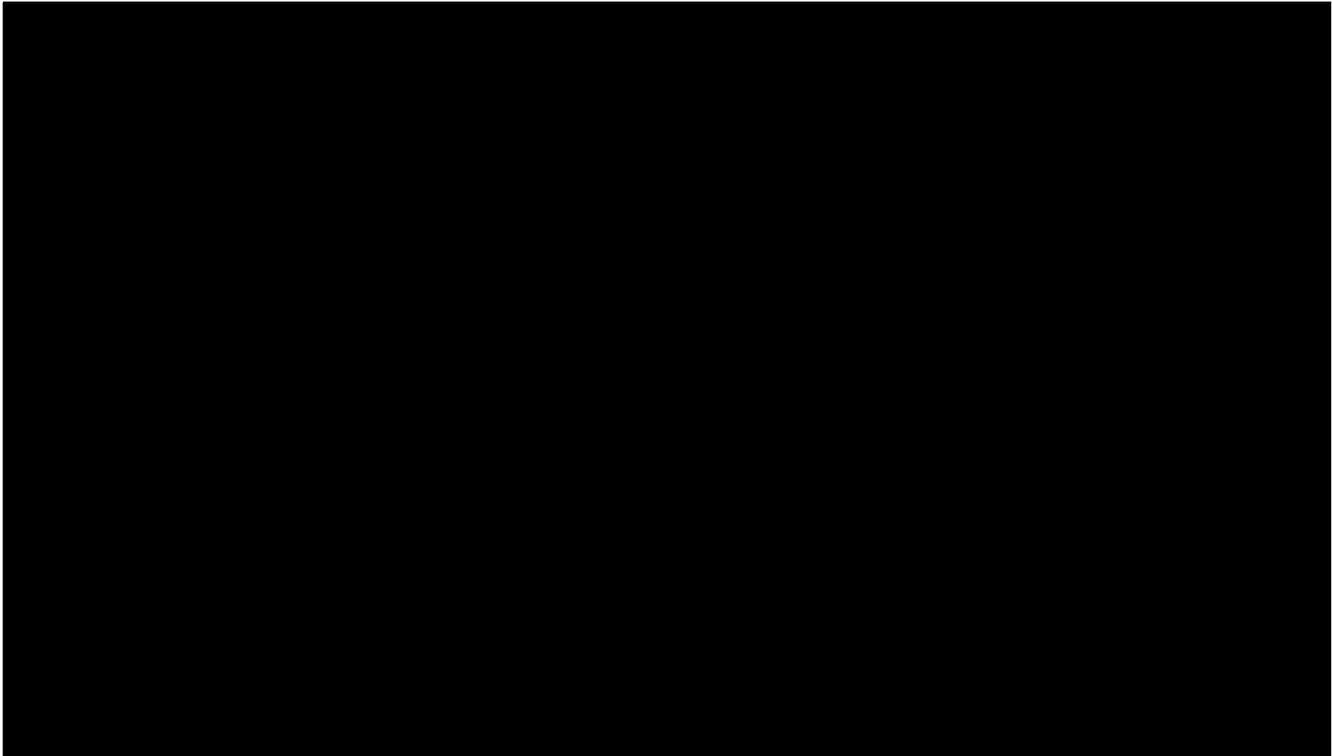


CLOSEOUT OF M92060020

This case was brought to the attention of OIG by [REDACTED] a program officer in the Division [REDACTED] as a possible incidence of intellectual theft. The program officer had forwarded proposal [REDACTED] by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (the PIs), to [REDACTED] the informant, for review. The informant indicated that he had previously discussed the possibility of cooperative research with the PIs. He supplied copies of correspondence to document those discussions. One of the ideas covered in those discussions was described by the proposal. The informant expressed concern about a possible conflict of interest as a reviewer based on his knowledge of and support of the ideas expressed in those discussions. He did not express concern about intellectual theft by the PIs or any other form of misconduct.

A review of the materials supplied by the informant showed that he had properly drawn attention to his possible conflict of interest as a reviewer. The resolution of this disclosure rests with the program officer in consultation with the Division/Directorate-level Conflicts Officials and the Office of General Counsel. We advised the program officer to contact his Conflicts Official.

There is no basis for an allegation of misconduct, and this case is closed.



cc: Assistant Inspector General for Oversight
Inspector General