



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-20-0034-O

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We received an allegation of privacy violations related to an NSF award involving human research participants. The awardee institution's Institutional Review Board (IRB) reviewed the matter and issued a letter assessing the unanticipated problem that involved risk to human subjects.

The IRB required the researchers to take corrective actions and create a plan to prevent future problems. The research team amended the IRB protocol, which was approved by the IRB. We concluded these actions were sufficient to protect the NSF's interests, given that the problem was unanticipated. We sent a QAP warning letter to the researchers.

This case is closed with no further action taken.