



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-18-0046-O

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We investigated allegations that the principals for a Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) awardee utilized university graduate students to complete the company's research and write proposals. We reviewed the company's award documents; subpoenaed multiple financial institutions, state incorporation, and labor records; and interviewed former employees, the principals, and NSF program and grants staff. Our investigation substantiated the allegations and determined the company utilized research from different, unrelated projects in its reports submitted to NSF as part of the STTR Phase II award.

The case was presented to the U.S. Department of Justice where it was initially accepted, but ultimately declined for criminal and civil prosecution.

This case is closed with no further investigative action taken.