



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-22-0002-O

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We received an allegation of retaliation from a former research scientist (Complainant) at a university related to an unfunded NSF proposal. The Complainant made allegations to the university and a congressional office that: 1) NSF violated its Proposal and Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) when his proposal request for reconsideration took more than 45 days to receive a response; and 2) the NSF program officer responsible for handling the proposal lacked the required expertise. The Complainant alleged the university prematurely terminated his contract as retaliation for the disclosures.

We provided the Complainant with our standard Complaint Form to collect additional information to determine whether our office was required to investigate the allegations pursuant to applicable statutes. Our jurisdictional analysis concluded that we lacked jurisdiction to proceed with an investigation because this matter involves an unfunded NSF proposal and no grant funds were at issue. Accordingly, 41 U.S.C. § 4712 does not apply.

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