



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-20-0087-O

Page 1 of 1

Our office received an allegation of administrative and financial misconduct involving two PIs on a three-entity collaborative award. Specifically, two PIs (Subject 1 and Subject 2) submitted substantially overdue reports on their two awards (Award 1 and Award 2, respectively) and their use of grant funds was unclear.

Our review found that Subject 1 submitted Award 1's final report and project outcomes report more than 2 years late; Subject 2 submitted one of Award 2's annual reports more than 3 years late; and Subject 2 submitted Award 2's final report and project outcomes report more than 2 years late.

To determine whether grant funds were misused, we issued subpoenas to both Subject 1's and Subject 2's institutions (University 1 and University 2, respectively). We found no financial misconduct associated with Award 1 but found that Subject 1 inaccurately reported time spent working on Award 1 on her project reports. We found unsupported and unallocable costs associated with Award 2, and University 2 returned the funds to NSF.

We sent Subject 1 a letter reminding her to provide timely and accurate project reports; we sent Subject 2 a letter reminding him to provide timely project reports; we sent University 1 a letter reminding it to ensure timely submission of project reports; and we sent University 2 a letter reminding it to both ensure timely submission of project reports and accurate financial records. We also referred University 2 to OIG's Office of Audit for potential additional review.

Accordingly, this case is closed.