

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

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Our office received an allegation of a merit review confidentiality violation by an NSF panelist who had left the University where the panelist was previously employed. Additional grant expense allegations made during our investigation were forwarded to the University. The University checked the questioned grant expenses and did not find any disallowed items. As part of our investigation, we reviewed two awarded proposals that listed the panelist as a PI or co-PI and found *de minimus* plagiarism. We determined only formatting had been taken from proposals reviewed by the panelists. The University also assessed the questioned proposals for plagiarism and concluded no formal inquiry was necessary. Based on our review, we conclude there is not sufficient evidence of research misconduct, confidentiality violation, or improper grant expenses to merit additional investigation.

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