



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-24-0009-O

Page 1 of 1

We received an allegation that a declined NSF proposal (Proposal) contained material plagiarized from another, awarded, NSF proposal (Award). We reviewed the Proposal and the Award and confirmed there was some unattributed overlapping material. Neither the Proposal PI (PI) nor the Co-PI (CoPI) were listed on the Award. However, the PI had been supported by the Award as a postdoctoral researcher.

We sent inquiry letters to the PI and Co-PI about the plagiarism allegation; both responded. The PI acknowledged copying some material from the Award into the Proposal without attribution and accepted responsibility. Additionally, the PI provided a letter from his postdoctoral advisor, the Award's PI, explaining the postdoctoral advisor had shared the award text and was aware the PI planned to replicate some of the Award's work. The Co-PI denied any knowledge of the copied material.

We sent a questionable research practice letter to the PI, emphasizing the importance of scholarly writing and appropriate citation in all proposal sections.

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