



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A02030024

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On March 27, 2002, we received an allegation of retaliation. Specifically, Complainant¹ alleged 'acts of reprisal and intimidation against me because I reported scientific misconduct.' The matter was opened for inquiry on March 29.

Complainant states that he filed a complaint with his university alleging that Subject-1² and Subject-2³ (former collaborators) listed him as a co-author on several conference abstracts without his permission. Complainant alleges that retaliation against him occurred as a result of filing this complaint, specifically:

1. In the course of a lawsuit brought by Complainant, a lawyer questioned him about his relationship with Subject-1.
2. Subject-3⁴ asked him not to work alone and at night in the lab.
3. His former collaborators have excluded him from their research.

We conducted a records review to determine whether the original complaint (and thus, the alleged retaliation) was within our jurisdiction. We found that the alleged misconduct did not appear to involve NSF-funded research. We next analyzed the complaint materials. Our assessment is that the alleged acts are related to a lawsuit filed by Complainant against Subject-1, that they revolve around personal and professional issues, and that they are not in retaliation for the misconduct complaint.

This matter is not within our jurisdiction. Accordingly, this case is closed.

¹ [redacted]
² [redacted]
³ [redacted]
⁴ [redacted]

	Agent	Attorney	Supervisor	AIGI
Sign / date				