

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## **CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM**

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We received an anonymous allegation with a copy of a newsletter circulated by an NSF program officer's outside consulting company stating that, "[w]hile continuing to assist NSF in the capacity of Program Officer..., I am working with a wide range of clients, including the U.S. Department of Energy, National Health Museum, and others. I'd be glad to discuss ways I can assist you." The anonymous allegation said this was an "e-mail sent to future NSF applicants."

The subject told us that he had received conflicts advice from NSF's DAEO and followed it. The subject demonstrated that he had kept his conflicts official informed of his outside consulting activities and his efforts to keep them separate from his NSF activities. He also notified others in his division about institutions from which he was recused because of conflicts issues. He said that he keeps lists of NSF awardee institutions and PIs, and endeavors to ensure that they, and potential NSF applicants, do not receive his newsletter.

The subject has demonstrated awareness of the conflicts rules and evidence of his efforts to comply with them, and the anonymous allegation provided no evidence of wrongdoing. Accordingly, this case is <u>closed</u>.