

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

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A Hotline call into the OIG from a former employee¹ at the university² alleged misuse of grant funds and conversion of NSF equipment for private use. The caller alleged that a university employee³ was performing work for private companies and covering the cost of stock materials by over charging NSF grants. It was also alleged that this individual had been obtaining government surplus machinery through the use of NSF grants and then taking the machinery home for his personal use.

An investigation was conducted that included requesting and reviewing financial records from the university, interviews of the complainant, witnesses, university officials and the subject and the issuance of a subpoena seeking copies of specific corporate tax records. This subpoena was challenged and subsequently upheld by the Federal Court in the Central District of Illinois.⁵

Based on the information identified during this investigation and the lack of any credible information to support the allegations made by the complainant it is our conclusion that no further action is warranted.

Accordingly, this case is *closed*.