

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

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On October 2, 2002, the OIG received information that the subject¹ posted an advertisement on the NSF Announce Bulletin Board advertising numerous items for sale². The concern was that the advertisement may have violated NSF's policy regarding the use of the announce bulletin board by using NSF electronic resources to promote a business.

The subject was initially interviewed and acknowledged the posting. During this interview and several subsequent interviews, the subject acknowledged selling and delivering all of the advertised items to NSF employees but refused to disclose the source of the items or the identities of the purchasers.

Additional investigative actions produced evidence that the items advertised and ultimately sold through the use of the Announce Bulletin Board were previously reported stolen, and an active investigation was underway by other law enforcement agencies³.

Continued attempts to obtain the subjects cooperation proved ineffective. After consulting with other relevant investigative agencies and the United States Attorneys' Office of the Eastern District of Virginia, the subject was granted immunity from federal prosecution.

On May 14, 2003, a Report of Investigation (ROI)⁴ was submitted to agency officials⁵ detailing the facts of the investigation and identifying numerous administrative violations by the subject. The ROI identified the seriousness of the subject's refusal to fully cooperate and recommended that the employee be terminated.

On January 30, 2004, we received notification that the subject had resigned his/her position at NSF prior to the agency's final decision of their proposed removal. Offical documenation, in the form of a Notice of Personnel Action (SF50) was received on February 10, 2004. It documented the subject's resignation and identified an effective date of January 31, 2004⁶.

Accordingly, this case is *closed*.

