



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I03120077

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On 23 November 2003, the complainant¹ contacted OIG to express his concern regarding the misappropriation of NSF award² funds. The complainant stated the principal investigator (PI)³ on an NSF grant claimed to have attended a conference that he did not actually attend but paid for the trip with NSF award funds. The complainant also stated that the PI was double billing for travel expenses and the PI had a conflict of interest that was not being addressed by the institution.

OIG talked to the complainant at great length and exchanged several emails concerning his allegations. The complainant submitted documentation that allegedly demonstrated the truth of his allegations. OIG contacted the institution and requested all financial documentation related to its grant. We asked that the institution pay special attention to travel expenses and explain each with as much detail as possible. The institution forwarded all documentation requested and explained to OIG's satisfaction each travel expense.

After reviewing the information submitted by the complainant and the institution and the institutions explanation of the travel expenses, OIG concluded that the institution had misappropriated approximately \$2,354.76 of award funds. The institution promptly adjusted its Federal Cash Transaction Report to reflect the return of those funds. After receiving confirmation of this adjustment, OIG is satisfied that the institution spent the remainder of its funds appropriately. Accordingly, this case is closed.

¹ footnote redacted

² footnote redacted

³ footnote redacted