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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I04070023

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In June 2004, we received allegations from a complainant who wished to remain confidential. The complainant's allegations arose out of educational outreach efforts of personnel on an NSF grant. Specifically, the complainant alleged the PI, and others, had shown disregard for export/import laws of the US and another country (AC) by (1) providing technology that had dual-use capability (military as well as research) and (2) set up the wireless networks (which violated AC's law). (3) The complainant also alleged some technology had been smuggled into AC inside an Ambassador's diplomatic pouch. The complainant asked for confidential source status, which we granted.

The complainant described the device he believed had dual-use capabilities. He thought providing that device to other, developing nations potentially violated either Commerce Law or DoD export regulations. He did not believe anyone was actually doing anything illegal with the devices, but, nonetheless, that possibility existed. The complainant provided documentation he said supported the allegations, including an email sent to him from a senior supervisor (SS) at his organization in which SS admitted to smuggling educational devices, namely wireless networks, into other countries, and in which SS indirectly threatened the complainant if he caused trouble for the organization.

The allegations were not directly within our jurisdiction. We contacted the FBI to ask whether it would pursue those type allegations. Given the limited information we provided to protect the complainant's identity, the FBI asked for the complainant to contact it directly. Accordingly, we provided the complainant with the FBI's contact information, and the complainant has contacted the FBI. Since we have no jurisdiction over these allegations, and they have been successfully forwarded to the FBI, this case is <u>closed</u>.