



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I07100039

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We conducted a joint investigation with NASA OIG involving a PI<sup>1</sup> at a Georgia college<sup>2</sup> who submitted false claims to NSF and NASA on grants over a five year period. Our investigation revealed that the PI charged personal travel costs to an NSF grant and two NASA grants, used grant funds for personal purchases, and charged the grants for advertising and printing expenses for an unrelated art exhibit. The PI also charged the federal grants for activities related to his personal interest in art such as trips to attend art exhibits, festivals, and meetings with art experts all over the world.

Our investigation resulted in a settlement agreement requiring the college to reimburse the federal government \$1.2 million and to enter into a five-year compliance plan. Ultimately, the college did not renew the PI's employment contract. As a result of our recommendation, NSF debarred the PI for five years.

Accordingly, this case is closed.

[REDACTED]