

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

## **CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM**

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We received an allegation that an NSF contractor<sup>1</sup> and its personnel<sup>2</sup> may have committed a Procurement Integrity Act<sup>3</sup> violation, based on an unauthorized disclosure of a competitor's<sup>4</sup> proprietary information to the contractor. According to the allegation, the contractor incorporated some of the proprietary information into its proposal to NSF for a contract for which the competitor was also bidding.<sup>5</sup> NSF awarded the contract to the contractor.

We determined that the disclosures of information occurred before NSF issued its request for proposals, and that no government personnel were involved in the disclosures of information. Under these circumstances we concluded that no Procurement Integrity Act violation had occurred. We elected, after coordination with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia, to defer consideration of possible false statements in the contractor's proposal until after the outcome of NSF's administrative processing of the matter.<sup>6</sup>

Accordingly, this case is *closed*.

3 41 U.S. Code § 2101 et seq.