



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-13050030

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This allegation stemmed from a previous case¹ where a complainant² alleged he had been removed from a National Science Foundation (NSF) award³ made under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) for reporting the misuse of funds to his university⁴. In that case, our investigation did not find evidence that the allegations of misuse of NSF funds were substantiated or actionable with respect to the NSF award, and NSF issued a Final Decision that the awardee presented clear and convincing evidence that it would have removed the complainant from the award notwithstanding his allegations of misuse of NSF funds.

In this matter, the same complainant alleged that the university removed a scholarship from his control in retaliation for the same conduct as in his previous allegation. The decision to remove the scholarship from the complainant's control was made over one year before the complainant made his allegations of misuse of NSF funds to the university, and before the complainant made any protected disclosures as defined by ARRA. We found credible the university's claim that, prior to our involvement, it had spoken with the complainant and agreed to return the funds to his control. The complainant confirmed that the scholarship funds had been returned to his control.

Accordingly, this case is closed with no further action taken.

