9 March 1998

Memorandum

To: File
I96090052

From: [redacted]

Through: [redacted]
Special Agent-in-Charg[redacted]

Subject: Resolution of Allegations

Dr. [redacted] alleged that Dr. [redacted] while supervising Dr. [redacted] NSF grant, required Dr. [redacted] to budget approximately $2,800 for "abstract fees" or "analytical costs," even though no "analysis" was done. In addition, Dr. [redacted] alleged that Dr. [redacted] was purchasing [redacted] materials from [redacted] which he then used to create [redacted] According to Dr. [redacted] in this work, Dr. [redacted] then sold the [redacted] back to [redacted] for a profit.

Dr. [redacted] had just been fired, and had been removed from his [redacted] offices. Dr. [redacted] was involved in a dispute with [redacted] and Dr. [redacted] about the circumstances of his dismissal, and about the ownership of various items taken from Dr. [redacted] office. Dr. [redacted] claimed that Dr. [redacted] was a disgruntled former employee who was fired for threatening to sabotage Dr. [redacted] research, and who was trying to get Dr. [redacted] in trouble by complaining to us.

We examined Dr [redacted] NSF grants as well as those of Dr. [redacted] and examined account summaries and payroll details for these grants. Dr. [redacted] Dr. [redacted] and [redacted] were interviewed. In addition, I reviewed the grants and their documentation with an OIG scientist.

We did not identify any charges for abstract fees or analytical costs (or anything analogous to them) in Dr. [redacted] NSF grant. In addition, we did not identify any transactions with [redacted] for Dr. [redacted] or Dr. [redacted] NSF grants. [redacted] accounting personnel examined the account records for the grants as well, and confirmed that there were no analytical costs to Dr. [redacted] NSF grant, and that there had been no transactions of any kind with [redacted] in the NSF grants.

Based on the lack of evidence in support of Dr. [redacted] allegations, this case is closed.