

CLOSEOUT FOR M93070035

This case was brought to the attention of OIG by [REDACTED], a program director in the [REDACTED] on July 8, 1993. The program director had been informed that the subject, [REDACTED], a graduate student at the University of [REDACTED], had indicated that he was "White/Caucasian" on his graduate school application. The informant was concerned because the subject was the recipient of an NSF Minority Graduate Fellowship. The subject had indicated that he was "Hispanic/Other" on his NSF Graduate Fellowship application.

In response to OIG's request for information the subject stated that he was both Caucasian and Hispanic. He said that his paternal great-grandparents were from [REDACTED]. He stated that he had been raised in a home where both Spanish and English were spoken and in which Spanish customs were observed. He said that he had spent a year in [REDACTED] with relatives attending [REDACTED] public school and felt most comfortable with his Hispanic friends. The subject provided copies of his birth certificate and his grandmother's death certificate to support his statements.

For purposes of racial and ethnic identification the National Science Foundation has defined a Hispanic individual as "a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race" (NSF Form 1125). The subject showed that his ancestors were of Spanish origin and that his cultural upbringing was influenced by Spanish customs.

Therefore, OIG determined that there was no substance to this allegation and closed the case.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Staff Scientist, Oversight

9/2/93

Concurrence:

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