

CLOSEOUT of CASE M99030007

A PI¹ admitted publicly in a newsletter that he was told about the confidential rankings of his proposal and about the deliberations of NSF panel members.² NSF staff involved in the panel³ speculated about one of the panelist's⁴ being the source of the leak. We researched possible financial or professional connections between the suspected source and the PI and found no clear connections or any other evidence supporting the speculation. When asked about the source of the ranking information, the PI said several people had given him information about the panel discussions and he was not willing to divulge more specific information that would allow us to pursue this allegation.

This inquiry is closed and no further action will be taken in this case.

cc: IG, Integrity

¹ [redacted].

² The proposal, [redacted], was entitled [redacted]. [redacted] was the sole PI and [redacted] was requested for 5 years of funding.

³ [redacted].

⁴ [redacted].