



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-09080045

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This investigation was initiated from an allegation that a PI¹ spent funds from an NSF award² on activities not included in the original proposal and contrary to instructions received from NSF.

Our investigation, which included a review of financial records and an interview of the PI, revealed that following the completion of the activities set forth in the original proposal, the PI requested permission from NSF to spend remaining funds on other activities, but was directed to provide a proposed budget for such expenditures to NSF for consideration. Rather than provide the proposed budget as directed, the PI obtained a grantee approved no-cost extension and expended the remaining award funds without NSF permission. NSF did not learn of these expenditures until the PI filed an annual report, more than a year after the report was due to NSF.

Our investigation also revealed that there were charges made to the award that were unallowable or not supported by sufficient documentation.

The awardee institution³ returned \$19,736 of unallowable and unsupported charges to NSF, in addition to making changes to their no-cost extension policy. The institution also removed the PI from his position as an academic center director. We wrote to the PI, admonishing him to adhere with applicable grant conditions and to promptly reply to requests of Program Officers.

In light of the above, no further investigative effort is necessary in this matter.

Accordingly, this case is closed.

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