



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A14060031

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OIG received a hotline allegation alleging improper allocations from an NSF award.¹ We sent the awardee a letter asking for a list of expenditures under the award and to provide justification for all salaries. The awardee provided the requested financial information, but did not provide the requested salary justifications.

We did not find any unusual expenditures, but we found a co-PI² was paid two months of salary without any apparent justification. Since the co-PI's efforts were not listed in the annual reports, and the awardee had not provided any justification that his work was related to the grant, we questioned his salary. In response to our query, the awardee provided a description of the co-PI's efforts on the award.

We asked the former program officer (PO)³ for his opinion about the co-PI's work. We provided him with the proposal, the annual reports, and the awardee's description of the co-PI's efforts. The PO said the co-PI's response was reasonable and related to the proposal.

Based on the awardee's amended response and the PO's evaluation, we conclude the co-PI contributed to the project and the expenditures reflect that. Accordingly, this case is ***closed*** with no further action taken.

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