



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

**CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM**

Case Number: I11060029

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This case was opened when NSF OIG learned that an online business<sup>1</sup> was using the NSF logo and representing that it was in collaboration with NSF.

Our investigation determined the business used the NSF logo without its permission and falsely represented to customers that it conducted testing in NSF laboratories. The business's two owners, a husband<sup>2</sup> and wife<sup>3</sup>, were indicted for misuse of a government seal and mail fraud.

The husband pled guilty to one count of misuse of a government seal and one count of mail fraud and was sentenced to 15 months in prison and 3 years of supervised release. The wife pled guilty to one count of misprision of a felony and was sentenced to a 2 year term of probation. The two were to pay restitution totaling approximately \$60,000. We recommended that NSF debar the business, the husband, the wife, and their other 3 businesses<sup>4</sup> for 3 years. NSF debarred all parties for 3 years.

This case is closed with no further action taken.

