



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

**CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM**

Case Number: I15080044

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We received an allegation from a complainant<sup>1</sup> that he was retaliated against by his university<sup>2</sup> for reporting that a necropsy report for a research animal was falsified. We determined that the allegation revolved around animal welfare and veterinary care issues that were referred to other entities<sup>3</sup> to be appropriately addressed and resolved.

We further determined that our office did not have jurisdiction to investigate the complainant's allegations of retaliation because (a) the complainant was not an NSF employee and was therefore not covered by the Whistleblower Protection Act,<sup>4</sup> and (b) the complaint did not involve any NSF awards that came under the specific jurisdiction granted to our office (by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act<sup>5</sup> or the Pilot Program for Enhancement of Contractor Protection from Reprisal for Disclosure of Certain Information<sup>6</sup>) to investigate retaliation claims made by employees of contractors or grantees.

This case is closed with no further action taken.

<sup>4</sup> 5 U.S.C. § 2302.

<sup>5</sup> P.L. 111-5 § 1553; the award was not funded under this statute.

<sup>6</sup> 41 U.S.C. § 4712.