



U.S. NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
Office of Inspector General

Case Closeout Memorandum

OIG Case Number I-23-0058-O | August 20, 2025

We investigated an allegation that a postdoctoral participant on an NSF award inappropriately touched a graduate student who was part of his research team during a deployment to Palmer Station (Palmer), Antarctica. We issued multiple subpoenas, interviewed the subject, the graduate student, and several witnesses.

We submitted a Report of Investigation to NSF and recommended that it take any administrative actions deemed appropriate. NSF found that it was more likely than not that the alleged misconduct occurred and banned the subject from USAP facilities for three years, after which the subject can request reconsideration.

The Department of Justice declined to prosecute.

This case is closed with no further action taken.