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Investigation of Misappropriation Uncovers Unallowable Expenses and Other Violations of Grant Provisions

DATE ISSUED 06.21.2016

Closed 6/21/16

A Hotline complaint alleged that the director of an AmeriCorps program in Iowa misappropriated program funds to purchase groceries for her personal use. The director could not provide a consistent explanation of her use of the program's credit card. She was required to reimburse the costs and was terminated. The grantee, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, violated the grant provisions by failing to notify CNCS-OIG or CNCS officials of the fraud allegations and conducting its own internal investigation.

In the course of this investigation, CNCS-OIG also found that the grantee had claimed improper costs as part of its match. CNCS management therefore disallowed \$10,847.57 of match costs claimed for mileage reimbursement, health care premiums and supplies. The grantee was required to substitute allowable match expenses and adjusted its financial reports accordingly.

Case ID: 2015-018

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