



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
The Assistant Secretary for Environmental
Observation and Prediction
Washington, D.C. 20230

DEC 27 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Record

FROM: Dr. Kathryn Sullivan
Assistant Secretary of Commerce
for Environmental Observation and Prediction
Chief Scientist (Acting)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. Sullivan", written over the name and title of the sender.

SUBJECT: FY 2012 Scientific and Research Misconduct Annual Report

In accordance with NOAA Administrative Order 202-735D: Scientific Integrity, Section 10: Communication, Oversight, Review, and Reporting, NOAA is publishing the following report. During the period beginning December 7, 2011, when NOAA's Scientific Integrity Policy (NOAA Administrative 202-735D) came into effect, and the end of the Fiscal Year on September 30, 2012, NOAA received three allegations of scientific and research misconduct. The statuses of the allegations are as follows:

Cases in Process

2012-001 – A private entity alleged that a NOAA employee falsified scientific findings, failed to objectively consider conflicting findings, prevented conflicting views from being reported to key decision makers, and fabricated findings while failing to provide traceable data. The case, which was at the inquiry stage at the conclusion of the Fiscal Year, related to an oil spill.

2012-002 – A private individual alleged that a NOAA employee falsified scientific findings, failed to objectively consider conflicting findings, prevented conflicting views from being reported to key decision makers, and fabricated findings while failing to provide traceable data. The case, which was at the inquiry stage at the conclusion of the Fiscal Year, related to an oil spill.

Case Closed

2012-003 – A private entity alleged that a NOAA employee had fabricated and falsified information related to a National Ocean Service permitting process. This case was dismissed by the Deputy Under Secretary for Operations after an initial assessment.

