



September 15, 2010

To: Office of Inspector General
U.S. Department of Commerce Office of Inspector General
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230 Tel: (202) 482-4661

From: Timothy E. Eastman, PhD, former NSF Program Director

Subject: Scientific Fraud at NIST

Because of my background in both physics (PhD) and philosophy of science, and my former role as a Program Director at NSF (GEO/ATM/Magnetospheric Physics, 1991-1994), I am familiar with both issues of research methodology and science ethics.

This report of scientific fraud is in response to requests by your office and the NSF OIG (who referred me to your office) for reports of such cases and NSF's clear articulation of "What is Research Misconduct?" [NSF/OIG, New Research Misconduct Policies (www.nsf.gov/oig/session.pdf)].

Late last year, I obtained Professor David Ray Griffin's book on *The Mysterious Collapse of World Trade Center 7: Why the Final Official Report about 9/11 is Unscientific and False* [Olive Branch Press, 2009]. One of several quotes from the back cover says: "A definitive study of what happens when political concerns are permitted to override science and the scientific method. With intellectual finesse, Griffin shows that NIST's WTC 7 report has no scientific credibility. A must read for all concerned with the restoration of science to its 'rightful place' in our democracy." [John D. Wyndham, PhD. Physics, Cambridge University, former Research Fellow at CalTech].

1225 Edgevale Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
email: plasmas@starpower.net, ph: 301-587-0894

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I couldn't agree more with Dr. Wyndham – **Professor Griffin's book lays out an exceptionally strong case that the group in charge of NIST's WTC7 investigation committed scientific fraud to yield a pre-determined "answer."**

Further supporting this assessment are the following two items of advance praise published in the front of the book: "During my 33 years as a research physicist at the Naval Research Laboratory, it was my great joy to be able to contribute to the advancement of science without the slightest interference by NRL officials. So I was sickened to read in David Ray Griffin's assiduously researched book of unequivocal evidence for massive scientific fraud committed by a politicized NIST. I implore President Obama to end the subversion of science at NIST and open a new, unfettered, investigation of the 9/11 attacks." [David L. Griscom, Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the American Physical Society]. "If you consider it important that the US government's science agencies provide truthful information to the public, this book by David Ray Griffin is a *must read*. It shows beyond a shadow of doubt that NIST's report on the 'collapse' of WTC 7 did not tell us the truth." [Dwain Deets, former Director for Research Engineering at NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center].

Professor Griffin starts out with principles of scientific method and lays out three principles (from the NSF report on Research Misconduct) violated by NIST concerning scientific fraud in the strict sense and eight principles violated in a broad sense. The treatment is systematic, thoroughly documented, and scholarly.

As a physicist, one condition alone provides overwhelming evidence to me that NIST's claim of fire-induced collapse is necessarily incorrect and that controlled demolition is the only viable hypothesis. This concerns the interval of "free-fall" now admitted by NIST in their November 2008 Final Report as an interval of 2.25 seconds that extends from initial visible implosion to the time at which dust clouds obscure further collapse [see Griffin's detailed documentation about this on pages 231-241]. By the conservation of energy,

“free-fall” demonstrates that there is direct and full conversion of gravitational potential energy into vertical kinetic energy with NO remaining energy available for the many transverse (non-vertical) effects documented in the same NIST Final Report. Indeed, the head of NIST’s WTC research team, Shyam Sunder, himself explained back in August 2008, in conjunction with NIST’s “Draft for Public Comment,” why “free fall” would be impossible in a fire-induced collapse. Thus, the NIST Final Report includes an empirical fact (absolute free fall) that is inconsistent with its theory, because its theory in the Final Report is the same as the one articulated in its Draft Report, which was reported (correctly) by Dr. Sunder as incompatible with free fall. As documented in detail by Architects and Engineers for 911 Truth (<http://www.ae911truth.org>), such conditions can only be achieved through controlled demolition (see also <http://www.buildingwhat.org>).

Professor Griffin provides many other examples of fraud including, among others, ignoring the piece of “Swiss-cheese” steel reported in the appendix to the FEMA report; claiming that the girders had no shear studs (even though NIST's own 2004 interim report had said that they did); and claiming that there was a raging fire on the 12th floor at 5:00 pm (even though the interim report said that all fires on this floor had burned out by 4:45).

Although Griffin's vita says that he is a professor (emeritus) of philosophy of religion, he has carried out substantial scholarly work, including many papers and books, in philosophy and on the relation of science and religion, which led him to focus heavily on the philosophy of science. I once participated in a conference he had organized that resulted in a volume, published by SUNY Press, entitled "Physics and the Ultimate Significance of Time." in addition to his outstanding scholarship, I have very high regard for his honesty and integrity.

Given the evidence indicated above and the extensively documented evidence contained in Professor Griffin’s book, I highly recommend that you investigate fraud in NIST’s study of the WTC 7 collapse.