Allison C. Lerner

Inspector General, National Science Foundation

Chair, Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency

Allison C. Lerner assumed the duties as Inspector General of the National Science Foundation (NSF) in April 2009, reporting to the National Science Board and the Congress. As head of the Office of Inspector General, she recommends policies for promoting economy, efficiency and effectiveness of NSF programs and operations. She leads efforts to prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse; improve the integrity of NSF programs and operations; and investigate allegations of misconduct in science.

Ms. Lerner began her federal career in 1991, joining the Department of Commerce Office of Inspector General. During her tenure at Commerce, she served as assistant counsel, special assistant to the IG, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Auditing, and Counsel to the Inspector General. Prior to joining the federal government, she was an associate at a law firm in San Antonio, Texas.

In June 2011, Ms. Lerner was designated by President Obama as a member of the Government Accountability and Transparency Board. She has chaired the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency since January 2021 and served as its vice chair from January 2015 through December 2020.

Ms. Lerner received her law degree from the University of Texas School of Law and a B.A. in liberal arts from the University of Texas. She is admitted to the bar in Texas and the District of Columbia.