**RESEARCH TRAINEES**

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT RESEARCH MISCONDUCT**

**Misconduct Is Not Limited to Published Research**
Research misconduct is fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism, and can occur in publications, presentations, posters, and grant applications – whether they are funded or unfunded.

**Research Misconduct Affects Everyone**
Tainted research can have negative implications on individuals in the lab, the larger research community, and in the public’s trust in science.

**There Is a Professional You Can Contact**
Most institutions refer to this person as the Research Integrity Officer (RIO). You can contact your RIO about questionable practices.

**Institutions Have Policies to Protect All Involved**
Every institution has a requirement to take all reasonable and practical steps to protect the reputation of those who report research misconduct and anyone falsely accused.

**Of ORI’s research misconduct cases**:
- 12% were reported by research trainees
- 40% were committed by research trainees

**Anyone Can Report Misconduct**
Scientists are obligated to point out errors regardless of their position in the lab. The research community depends on you to report misconduct.

**You Can Report Research Misconduct Anonymously**
Anyone can contact ORI anonymously by phone or email to address concerns.

- 240-453-8800
- AskORI@hhs.gov

Learn more about responsible research at: ori.hhs.gov

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1 For the full definition of research misconduct, see 42 C.F.R. § 93.103.
2 RIOs may have other titles, such as Chief Compliance Officer, Director of Compliance, Vice President/Dean of Research, or Director of Integrity.
3 Statistics based on closed ORI case findings from 2011–2015. Trainees are students and postdoctoral fellows.