

interviewed by and to present witnesses and evidence to the inquiry and investigation

- (K) Committees, to be present at an inquiry and/or investigative hearing, to review the inquiry and investigation reports, and to have the assistance of private legal counsel or another advisor during the inquiry and/or investigative hearing, but may advise the respondent. Further, the respondent may write out questions to be asked of witnesses during an inquiry and/or investigation, hear the answer(s), and submit for response any follow-up questions.
- (L) The respondent is responsible for maintaining confidentiality and cooperating with the conduct of an inquiry or investigation.
- (M) Institutional official.

The research integrity officer will appoint inquiry and, if necessary, investigation committees and ensure that necessary and appropriate expertise is secured to carry out a thorough and authoritative evaluation of the relevant evidence in an inquiry or investigation. The research integrity officer will also ensure that interim administrative actions are taken, as appropriate, to protect federal funds and guarantee that the purposes of the federal financial assistance are carried out.

- (N) The research integrity officer will receive the reports and written comments of the respondent and the complainant, if any are made. The deciding officer shall determine whether to conduct an investigation, or to recommend that sanctions be imposed, or to take appropriate administrative actions.

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