

## Scott Smullen - NOAA Federal

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**From:** Scott Smullen - NOAA Federal  
**Sent:** Monday, September 9, 2019 2:20 PM  
**To:** Vann, Matthew  
**Subject:** Re: ABC News re: NOAA response to Washington Post reporting

It would be official, conducted by the acting chief scientist, but I wouldn't call it agency-wide.

On Mon, Sep 9, 2019 at 2:17 PM Vann, Matthew <[Matthew.Vann@abc.com](mailto:Matthew.Vann@abc.com)> wrote:

Scott—

Sorry, just need to be very sure on your last note. Just tried your cell as well.

By saying the former ... this would indeed count as an official agency wide investigation.

**From:** Scott Smullen - NOAA Federal [<mailto:scott.smullen@noaa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 09, 2019 1:27 PM  
**To:** Vann, Matthew <[Matthew.Vann@abc.com](mailto:Matthew.Vann@abc.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: ABC News re: NOAA response to Washington Post reporting

the former

On Mon, Sep 9, 2019 at 1:18 PM Vann, Matthew <[Matthew.Vann@abc.com](mailto:Matthew.Vann@abc.com)> wrote:

Thanks much, Scott.

One last question that is needed for reporting clarification ...

Does the chief scientist's launch of an investigation count as an official agency wide investigation?

Or is that something that needs to come from another office ... like an inspector general, or auditor type?

**From:** Scott Smullen - NOAA Federal [<mailto:scott.smullen@noaa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 09, 2019 1:00 PM

**To:** Vann, Matthew <[Matthew.Vann@abc.com](mailto:Matthew.Vann@abc.com)>  
**Cc:** [julie.roberts@noaa.gov](mailto:julie.roberts@noaa.gov); [christopher.vaccaro@noaa.gov](mailto:christopher.vaccaro@noaa.gov)  
**Subject:** Re: ABC News re: NOAA response to Washington Post reporting

Hi Matthew,

I can provide you with this. You can quote me. Thanks -Scott

"NOAA's policies on [scientific integrity](#) and [communications](#) are among the strongest in the federal government, and get high marks from third party observers. The agency's senior career leaders are free to express their opinions about matters of agency operations and science. The agency will not be providing further official comment, and will not speculate on internal reviews."

On Mon, Sep 9, 2019 at 11:14 AM Vann, Matthew <[Matthew.Vann@abc.com](mailto:Matthew.Vann@abc.com)> wrote:

Good Morning, all—

Matthew Vann with ABC Network News in Washington.

Does NOAA have any response to reporting by the Washington Post that it's chief scientists will conduct an investigation to see if the agency violated its own policies and ethics in issuing statements in support of the president's assertion that Dorian would hit Alabama?

Any comment would be much appreciated.

MV



**Matthew Vann | Producer/Reporter**

ABC News Washington Bureau

1717 DeSales Street NW, Washington, D.C.

Mobile: (202) 578-8702 | Office: (202) 222-6264

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Scott Smullen

Deputy Director

NOAA Communications

202-482-1097 o / (b)(6) c

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Deputy Director

NOAA Communications

202-482-1097 o / (b)(6) c

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Scott Smullen

Deputy Director

NOAA Communications

202-482-1097 o / (b)(6) c