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June 14, 1988

Dr. Dean Kenyon
Biology Department
San Francisco State University
SF 94132

Dear Dean,

I have tested the fossil tooth from Texas, age about a million years, thought to be either human or fish. The tooth was ground and decalcified with EDTA and then tested by radioimmunoassay with antisera to albumins of human, chimpanzee, bear, bison, elk, mouse, elephant and trout, and with antisera to collagens of human and cow. In the first run, on May 10, 1988, the only albumin reactions greater than nonspecific binding were human (1.4%), chimp (1.6%), bison (0.7) and elk (0.6). I would consider a reaction of 3% or greater to be significant. Reactions with trout albumin and human collagen were zero. I repeated the test for human and chimp albumin on June 8 and this time got only 0.4% on each, which is definitely not significant.

I conclude that this specimen is probably too old to give us significant species-specific reactions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jerold".

Jerold M. Lowenstein
Clinical Professor of Medicine