



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2004 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Thomas C. McGrath, Jr.	Project Number J1014
Project Title Identification by Dental Structures	
<p style="text-align: center;">Abstract</p> <p>Objectives/Goals The purpose for doing this project is to prove that forensic odontology is a reliable science and that people can be positively identified by teeth or other dental features.</p> <p>Methods/Materials</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 216 Styrofoam cards(specimen cards)2. Ruler # in centimeters3. Labels4. 72 interviewees <p>Results In phase 1, the 7th graders were able to positively match their dental imprints approximately 96% of the time. In phase 2, 6th graders successfully identified their imprints 82% of the time. While in phase 3, which consisted of a blend of 6th and 7th graders, these individuals matched their imprints 95.6% of the time</p> <p>Conclusions/Discussion The results of all three phases demonstrated that forensic odontology is a reliable science which can be used to identify an individual by their teeth and dental structures.</p>	
Summary Statement My objective was to test the accuracy of the science of forensic odontology.	
Help Received Used lab equipment at Bay View Dental Lab under supervision of lab owner, Gloria Salvio,	