



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2008 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Travis McHugh	Project Number J1313
Project Title Breaking the Law	
Abstract Objectives/Goals To prove if Benford's Law applies to randomly generated numbers, and not just numbers occurring from natural data sets. Methods/Materials Materials: Microsoft Excel Random Number Generator Calculator Reliable Helper Methods: Generate a certain amount of data sets, with a specific amount of numbers per set Calculate the occurrence of each number 1 through 9 as the first digit of a number within the data set Compare the tested results to Benford's Law Results Benford's Law does not hold valid for all types of numerical data sets; Benford's Law does not apply to randomly generated numbers Conclusions/Discussion The law does not occur to randomly generated numbers because the percentage for each number to occur as the first digit of a number is the same.	
Summary Statement I tested the validity of Benford's Law when applied to randomly generated numbers	
Help Received mom assembled board, dad was "reliable helper"	