

## OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

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May 20, 2003

Mildred Porter  
Director of the National Medal of Technology Program  
US Department of Commerce

Dear Ms. Porter:

We are writing this letter in support of Gene Codes Corporation's nomination for the National Medal of Technology. After the attack on the World Trade Center, our office was responsible for the identification of the almost 2800 deceased individuals who were fragmented into 20,000 remains. At the time of the attack there was no software available to track samples from a mass disaster and assist in the identification and re-assembly of the remains. Gene Codes Corporation developed M-FISys to accomplish this task. Out of a sense of patriotic duty, they took a major financial risk in the development of M-FISys by shutting down most of their other operations and starting work on M-FISys at their own expense.

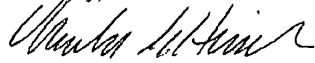
M-FISys is truly an innovative product. It was the first tool ever created to handle disasters on such a massive scale. The existing products could only handle one sample at a time and not do massive screenings of samples and data. In addition, M-FISys is the only product to integrate multiple technologies (STR, mitochondrial, and SNP DNA testing), manage quality control and samples, track meta data such as history of samples and anthropological review, perform kinship calculations, match samples directly, generate work lists, and direct work flow. A new and unique concept in M-FISys is the creation of virtual profiles which is made up of several attempts to extract from the same sample. Programming was done in an innovative manner on a short time scale with updates and new features being added weekly as testing progressed. The development of M-FISys has been likened to building an airplane while flying it.

M-FISys is remarkable because it performs all of these functions in a user friendly environment. Using colors and drop down boxes, a user can easily see as much or as little data as necessary. The support provided by Gene Codes is amazing. They fly to New York City usually once a week to provide software updates, perform maintenance, and address concerns. During these trips we prioritize the next added feature to the software. If there are any problems, they are addressed immediately.

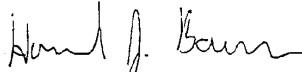
In summary, we strongly support Gene Codes Corporation's nomination for the National Medal of Technology. Without M-FISys the identification of the remains could not have proceeded so quickly and so smoothly. It has provided closure to many families of those lost in the World Trade Center. M-FISys is a state of the art tool which has set the gold standard for mass disaster software. It far surpasses government

developed software like CODIS and other privately sponsored software. Before settling on M-FISys, we performed a worldwide search for software and found nothing to meet our needs. Companies like Gene Codes keep America competitive and promote innovation.

Sincerely,



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Acting Director Forensic Biology