

August 3, 2023

Dear Bill,

In response to our SSRN preprint [1] (“Preprint”) examining the scientific flaws in your JFS case report [2] (“Case Report”), you posted a response on SSRN [3] (“Response”) that I first saw yesterday. Your *ad hominem* attack is inaccurate and nonresponsive to our Preprint.

You mistakenly allege three “falsehoods”. Here are the facts.

- #1. You published a Case Report in JFS [2]. It is called a “Case Report” on the front page. No prosecutor ever used your JFS Case Report. There is no dispute here.
- #2. A. In your Case Report, you showed the defendant’s DNA profile (Table 1). You released his name in the reports you made available on request (Acknowledgments). We stated all this in our Preprint (p. 76, second row).  
B. Your JFS Case Report was published while the case was still pending. There was no trial. The plea agreement dropped the DNA-related charge, thanks to TrueAllele.  
C. I obtained permission from the defendant’s attorney for mentioning the defendant’s name and the case name in our Preprint.
- #3. Recollections may vary. I described what occurred at the PCAST meeting (Preprint, pp. 40-41). Unfortunately, PCAST didn’t transcribe the meeting as I had requested.

Based on your Case Report document, our Preprint questions your competence in this scientific area. It does not comment on your character. It respectfully says you are “mistaken”, not deceitful. We don’t know why you wrote your Case Report.

Our Preprint contains a 71-page scientific manuscript that describes Methods, gives Results, and includes a 20-section Response to your Case Report. We provide a supplemental 32-page Rebuttal Chart responding to 120 of your Case Report statements. We establish that your Case Report lacks a scientific basis for your conclusions.

If you disagree with our comprehensive analysis of your JFS Case Report, you should explain why. That’s what scientists do. We raised 140 points. You have responded to none of them.

A refusal to respond concedes that your Case Report has no scientific merit. In which case you should retract your published Case Report from JFS.

Kind regards. – Mark

Mark W. Perlin, PhD, MD, PhD

Chief Scientific and Executive Officer, Cybergenetics

[1] MW Perlin, WP Allan, JM Bracamontes, KR Danser, and MM Legler. “Reporting Exclusionary Results on Complex DNA Evidence, A Case Report Response to 'Uncertainty in Probabilistic Genotyping of Low Template DNA: A Case Study Comparing STRmix™ and TrueAllele®' Software” (May 18, 2023). <https://ssrn.com/abstract=4449313>

[2] WC Thompson. "Uncertainty in probabilistic genotyping of low template DNA: A case study comparing STRMix™ and TrueAllele™". *Journal of Forensic Sciences*. 2023;68(3):1049-63.

[3] WC Thompson. "Response to False Statements Posted on SSRN by Mark Perlin, CEO of Cybergenetics, and his Employees" (July 5, 2023). <https://ssrn.com/abstract=4501801>