



Butte County

LAND OF NATURAL WEALTH AND BEAUTY

MICHAEL L. RAMSEY

District Attorney

FRANCISCO R. ZARATE
Chief Deputy District Attorney

ANTHONY G. KOESTER
Chief Investigator

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

December 8, 2005

A Butte County homicide case from 1984 will be featured on national television tomorrow night at 10 p.m. The Discovery Health channel will explore the locally famous case in its series "Skeleton Stories" about the work of forensic anthropologists and their work in solving old homicides. Dr. Turhon Murad of California State University at Chico was interviewed for his work in solving the case along with now Sheriff Perry Reniff and now District Attorney Mike Ramsey.

The story begins with the finding of a skull and scattered bones of the male victim in the Bangor area in 1986 as a young couple begins moving lumber from a pile for a chicken coop. Dr. Murad was called in to establish the age and cause of death. Then Detective Sgt. Perry Reniff began his investigation which lead to the arrest of the suspect in Salt Lake City in 1988. Then Chief Deputy District Attorney Mike Ramsey began the prosecution for homicide, bringing the victim's skull to be introduced as evidence in the then Oroville Justice Court during a preliminary hearing. Eventually convicted of Voluntary Manslaughter, the suspect was sentenced to eleven years in state prison.

Attached is the Discovery Health Channel's press release on the upcoming show:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 5, 2005

tahli_kouperstein@discovery.com

Contact: Tahli Kouperstein, 240-662-2221

**DISCOVERY HEALTH CHANNEL GIVES GLIMPSE INTO THE WORLD OF
FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY IN BRAND-NEW SERIES SKELETON STORIES**

*-- It's a Night of Forensics as the Premiere of **SKELETON STORIES** Begins Immediately
After DR. G: MEDICAL EXAMINER on **Friday, December 9** --*

(Silver Spring, Md.) – A young woman is missing, and somewhere nearby on the banks of a lake, an unidentified skull is found. Connecting these two discoveries is the work of a forensic anthropologist – a scientific expert who unearths, investigates and analyzes the last remains of a human being.

The world of forensic anthropology is an exclusive community with only 65 board-certified forensic anthropologists in the United States. When **SKELETON STORIES** premieres on Discovery Health Channel **Friday, December 9, at 10 PM (ET/PT)**, meet some of the country's leading forensic anthropologists who delve beneath the flesh to solve mysteries and give viewers an opportunity to learn more about their bodies like never before.

By studying bone structure – a skull or even fragments of skeletal remains – forensic anthropologists can unlock the secrets behind the skeleton including gender, ethnicity, age and how a person died. In some missing persons investigations, bone itself is useful in making positive identifications. Bones, like teeth, are living tissue, and living tissue is comprised of cells that contain DNA – the genetic material that can help unravel the human story.

While medical examiners primarily work within their offices and morgues, forensic anthropologists work in the field through elaborate search-and-recovery procedures, in the lab and via consultations with outside experts in entomology, radiology, chemistry, physics and facial imaging. Through the use of specialized techniques and cutting-edge analytical tools,

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forensic anthropologists collaborate with local law enforcement, state police departments and global agencies to help solve some of the toughest cases.

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SKELETON STORIES is produced for Discovery Health Channel by Atlas Media Corp. Executive producer for Atlas Media Corp. is Bruce David Klein. Executive producer for Discovery Health Channel is Alon Orstein.

Discovery Communications is the leading global real-world media and entertainment company. Discovery has grown from its core property, the Discovery Channel, first launched in the United States in 1985, to current global operations in more than 160 countries and territories with 1.3 billion cumulative subscribers. DCI's over 90 networks of distinctive programming represent 25 network entertainment brands including TLC, Animal Planet, Travel Channel, Discovery Health Channel, Discovery Kids, Discovery Times Channel, The Science Channel, Military Channel, Discovery Home Channel, Discovery en Español, Discovery Kids En Español, Discovery HD Theater, FitTV, Discovery Travel & Living (Viajar y Vivir), Discovery Home & Health and Discovery Real Time. DCI's other properties consist of Discovery Education and Discovery Commerce, which operates 120 Discovery Channel Stores. DCI also distributes BBC America in the United States. DCI's ownership consists of four shareholders: Discovery Holding Company (NASDAQ: DISCA, DISCB), Cox Communications, Inc., Advance/Newhouse Communications and John S. Hendricks, the Company's Founder and Chairman.

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