Lab #8 Forensic Case Report

Objective: To undertake a complete forensic examination of remains that have been turned over to you by the Kaua`i Police Department and to prepare a final report summarizing your findings.

Background: Human skeletal remains, found in association with men's clothing, were discovered by a Hawaii State botanist on a steep slope in the Kokee region of Kaua`i in early 1992. Photographs (Polaroid) and verbal descriptions of the discovery site indicate that the remains were scattered over an area measuring approximately 8 feet by 10 feet. At least some of the remains were apparently in direct association with (either under or inside) a man's shirt and denim trousers (38" waist, 31" inseam). The clothing appears to have been caught (snagged) in the branches of a dead and uprooted kiawe tree suggesting the remains, and the tree, had been washed down from above. The photos of the location of the site are provided.

Report: Your report should be both thorough and professionally written. Follow the guidelines given in Chapter 19 in Byers (2011a) and Byers (2011b) in preparing your report. The report should be 3-5 pages typed, including a separate (one page) summary. Append any worksheets (e.g., visual inventory sheet, Exercise Worksheet 19.1 in Byers, 2011b) used for determining time since death, inventory, ancestry, sex, age at death, stature, skeletal trauma, pathology, and anomalies. Include a covering letter and evidence of chain of custody.