



EMORY
UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Atlanta, June 11, 2008

To whom it may concern:

Dear Sir (Madam)

This letter is to confirm that Mr. Nicholas Plagman's employment in my lab will be terminated for budgetary reasons, as like many peers, my NIH funding has decreased. I am therefore unable to provide salary support for him beyond June 08.

Nick has spent 18 months in my lab with relatively little initial experience and has learned a lot in terms of research techniques. He has been in charge of most of the blood separation procedures for Dr. Ansari's group and mine, sample inventory and has also been handling several molecular techniques on his own, such as real time RT-PCR viral load determinations and molecular MHC typing, striving to provide quality work. His long-term goal is to enroll into Medical school which, based on his academic accomplishments should occur at some not too distant future.

He is intelligent, initiative driven and very independent, not afraid of tackling new techniques. I would add that for new technical tasks, he needs initial oversight until the implications and potential pitfalls of the type of procedure he is supposed to do are clear to him. However, beyond these initial steps, Nick has been and will be a productive individual in the lab.

Sincerely yours

Francois Villinger DVM/PhD
Associate Professor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'F. Villinger'.

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