

Your Dream Divorce Practice Can Be Yours!

Expert Witness Testimony

Recipe For Success

4 Stage Process

Voir Dire

Direct Examination

Cross Examination

Redirect Examination

Voir Dire / vwär 'dir/

Daubert Standard vs. Frye Standard

Frye sets a "general acceptance" test. "The work product must be sufficiently established to have gained general acceptance in the particular field in which it belongs."

Daubert states that the judge is to act as gatekeeper and determine if the expert's testimony is relevant and helpful. There are factors to determine if the methodology is reliable:

Testing: Has the theory or technique been tested? Peer Review: Has the theory been subjected to peer review discussion in publications? Error Rate: Does the theory or technique have a high known or potential rate of error? General Acceptance: Incorporates the Frye test.

-Family Law Services Handbook, p. 252



Direct Examination



Cross Examination



Redirect Examination

- Upon conclusion of cross-examination by the opposing attorney, the direct examiner may further question the witness in order to rebut or clarify matters raised during crossexamination.
- This further questioning is known as redirect examination and is only for the limited purpose of rebuttal or clarification of information brought out during crossexamination.
- New matters are not allowed to be brought out for the first time on redirect examination.

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Testify Rules from A to Z

- A. Avoid **absolutes** like never, always, etc.-Use language like, "in my experience", or "It is my opinion that"...
- B. Bulletproof your reports.
- C. Display **class** and act as if in a class.
- D. Pay attention to Detail
- E. Know elements.
- F. Lay a **foundation.**
- G. Do not GUESS.
- H. Beware of hypotheticals.
- I. Do NOT interrupt.
- J. Do NOT use jargon.
- K. Be Knowledgeable
- L. Make no legal conclusions.

Testify Rules from A to Z

- M. Missing issues in report creates issues for you.
- N. Appear **NEUTRAL**
- O. Do not answer a question if there is an **objection** pending.
- P. Be paranoid
- Q. Be quiet after you answer the question
- R. Respond only to the question asked
- S. Keep it simple
- T. Think before you speak
- U. Understand the question
- V. Keep an even tone of **voice.**
- W. Display wisdom.
- X. Use X-Ray vision (See through the cross-examiner's motives)
- Y. Be **yourself.**
- Z. Display ethical **zeal.**



DEPOSITIONS



Your Report





Preparation

