

**Use of the Education
Witness: Education not
Justification**

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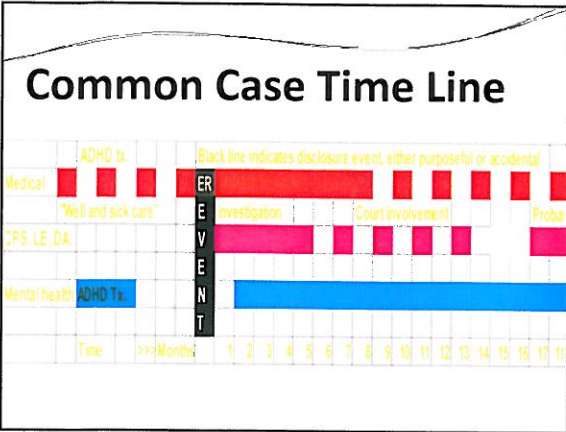
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What We Will Cover

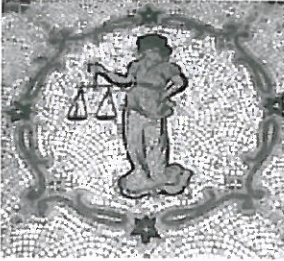
- Role
- Preparation
- Documentation
- Court

**Keys to Being a Good Expert
Witness**

- Know Your Venue
- Know Your Audience
- Know Your Role
- Know The rules



A Trial is Like a Mosaic



Are you a tile?
or
Are you glue that
secures the tile?

Fact Witness

- Your testimony will be in the technical portion.
- You have direct facts that we need in order to prove a specific element.

Expert Witness

- Your testimony is being used to give the jury the tools they need to understand a child witness's testimony.

Be Neutral.

We don't need you to advocate for our position.

We need you to convey critical information necessary for them to see the truth.

Preparation for Trial

- What does that look like?



Preparation

- Know what is expected of you: Fact vs. Opinion.
- Know what you know and be confident about it.
- Work with the Attorney.
- Develop a working relationship.

You Have Been Subpoenaed, Now What?

- If this is your first time in the legal system, you need very good consultation.
- It is important to remember this is an adversarial system.
- Know the differences between Family Court and Criminal Court.
- Please remember there is no such thing as a "casual conversation" in this process.
- Do not get lulled into comfort by the apparent informality of the Family Court Process.

You Have Been Served With a Subpoena Duces Tecum

- Know what your facility policy is regarding responding to subpoenas.
- Our agency requires a Judicial Subpoena with the language "that the interests of Justice outweigh the interests of confidentiality".

Documentation is Critical

- Fact Witness
- Expert Witness

Preparing For Your Testimony


- Know your topic.
- Scope of Information.
- Use only source material.
- Find a new way of saying it.

You are in court...

Philosophy & Tactics

- The most important thing is telling the truth.
- Then making sure that what you are conveying is what you mean.
- Look at the jury, not because you are trying to impress them, but because that is who you are there to educate.

Listen to the Question



Q: Do you know what time it is?

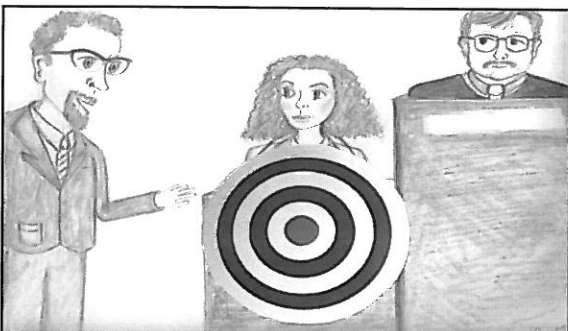
A: Yes

Education Regarding Child Sexual Abuse

Educate the jury not to expect more from a child than they would from themselves...

Testimony

Perceived credibility is MORE important than actual credibility. You may be the single most well respected member of your profession, published, sought after, but if those 12 people think you are clueless, trust me, you are clueless.



"Excuse me, but would the witness mind holding this for cross examination?"

Don't get Tongue-Tied on the Stand

- Talk about payment, get comfortable talking about money.

Demonstration

Work With Your Colleagues

- Honesty in providing feedback.

We Hope You Will Have Taken Away These Key Points

- Be neutral in your presentation. Your opinion should not change by who called you as a witness.
- Know the source material.
- The content of what you are explaining to the jury is important, not the labels.
 - Is it important whether it is called "sex" or "intercourse"?

Trier of Fact Evaluates You Based On:

- How you completed your role;
- Your knowledge of the topics;
- Your presentation of information;
- How you answered defense questions.

Q & A

Contact Information

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