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YMCA Youth Judicial Courtroom Procedure

Entering Evidence

1. Your Honor, may I approach the witness?
2. Mrs. Williams, I'm going to show you what has been pre-marked as Exhibit 7.
3. Do you recognize this document?
4. Witness: Yes I do.
5. Would you please tell the court what it is.
6. He or she identifies it adequately.
7. Your Honor, I offer this as Exhibit 7.
8. Any objection?

Impeachment

1. Witness makes inconsistent statement
2. Identify the statement.
3. Retrieve Deposition
4. Take Deposition to Opposing Lawyer
5. Opposing Lawyer Reviews
6. Show witness the signature
7. Confront with inconsistent statement.



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Qualifying and Tendering an Expert Witness

The technical requirements for qualifying an expert witness are straightforward. It is usually adequate to show that the witness possesses some specialized skill or knowledge, acquired through appropriate experience or education, and that the witness is able to apply that skill or knowledge in a manner relevant to the issues in the case. Example:

QUESTION: Dr. Gupta, could you please tell the jury about your education?

ANSWER: Certainly. I have an undergraduate degree in business from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. in economics from Northwestern University.

QUESTION: What work have you done since earning your doctorate?

ANSWER: I was a professor in the economics department at Washington University for six years. Then I left to start my own consulting firm, which is called Gupta & Associates.

QUESTION: Do you have a specialty within the field of economics?

ANSWER: Yes, my specialty is business valuation.

QUESTION: Has business valuation been your specialty both at Washington University and at Gupta & Associates?

ANSWER: Yes.

QUESTION: What is the field of business valuation?

ANSWER: It is the study of all of the components that contribute to the fair value of a business, including anticipated future profits, assets, receivables, good will and investment potential.

(Tender)

COUNSEL: Your Honor, we tender Dr. Abha Gupta as an expert witness in the field of business valuation and the projection of profits.

JUDGE: Are there any objections?

OPPOSING COUNSEL: No your Honor

Or

Yes your Honor. I object on

[The purpose of the tender is to inform the court that qualification has been completed and to give opposing counsel an opportunity to object to the tender.]