



RON SMITH & ASSOCIATES, INC.



Expert Witness Testimony Techniques for Laboratory Analysts

Course Description

Contrary to the public's perception, the majority of crime laboratories and forensic units do not have a formal and comprehensive expert witness testimony training program. This leaves the newly trained forensic scientist in the precarious position of learning to testify by attending the "School of Hard Knocks". Compound this lack of standardized training with the challenges to the forensic sciences since the "Daubert" decision and the recent National Academy of Sciences report, the courtroom environment becomes a potential mine field for the unprepared expert witness.

This two (2) day interactive course will focus on one basic premise, and that is: Jurors do not vote on the truth! They can only vote on their perception of the truth as they see it that day in court. It certainly is not our job as expert witnesses to convict, but it is incumbent upon us to testify in a manner which is believable and understandable, regardless of the verdict.

It is up to you, as an unbiased forensic expert witness, to instill within them what is termed "forensic trust". Trust of the forensic discipline you practice and trust in you as the practitioner. This course is designed to teach the student the methodology necessary to foster that level of trust, regardless of the challenges presented by legal counsel. It is a fun, interactive and highly energetic opportunity to significantly improve your testimony skills. Those faint of heart need not attend!

Target Audience

If you are an analyst, examiner or scientist working in a crime laboratory or a local agency forensic unit you will have to give testimony about the evidence you have examined or analyzed. Testifying with confidence to your findings in court is a skill that requires preparation and training before you enter the courtroom. This course focuses on techniques that will prepare you to communicate effectively in court, before a jury while reducing your stress at the same time. Courtroom Testimony Techniques for Laboratory Analysts is applicable to all forensic disciplines found in a forensic laboratory.

Should be Able to Perform

This course is designed to teach the student the methodology necessary to foster a level of "Forensic Trust," regardless of the challenges presented by legal counsel.

Must Bring to Class

Dress is business casual as the course will be conducted in a professional environment and facility.



**Class Instructor:
Ron Smith, CLPE**



Tuition: \$400.00
2 Days
16 I.A.I. Approved Training Hours

***This course approved for
I.A.I. Certification & Re-certification***