

EXPERT WITNESS TRAINING

by Sally Ramage®



Training to become an expert witness involves succeeding in the following topics:

1. Excellence in Report writing;
2. Courtroom skills;
3. Cross Examination techniques
4. Law and Procedure.

Quality expert evidence is of prime concern for courts.

The role of an expert witness in court is to clarify the situation, to assist the court and to help and educate the court, the court being the decision-making forum. There are technical and practical and personal preparations needed before going to court. Barristers use techniques to disconcert the witness and this must be taken into consideration. . An expert is not obliged to answer yes or no as the barrister requests. The expert could ask for a question to be repeated; could take his time in answering questions and should direct answers to the decision-maker, the judge.

On cross-examination , the barrister will challenge your qualifications and experience, challenge the contents of your report and effectively try to un- focus you. on For it is still the case that a court case does not necessarily bring out the truth; the right do not win and the wrong

lose; it is a matter of wits, cunning, trickery, surprise, undermining and lies in which the winner is the party who was able to convince the jury to believe him.

