



Garden State CLE  
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## Video Course Evaluation Form

Attorney Name \_\_\_\_\_

Atty ID number for Pennsylvania: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Course You Just Watched \_\_\_\_\_

### Please Circle the Appropriate Answer

Instructors:      Poor              Satisfactory              Good              Excellent

Materials:      Poor              Satisfactory              Good              Excellent

CLE Rating:      Poor              Satisfactory              Good              Excellent

**Required:** When you hear the bell sound, write down the secret word that appears on your screen on this form.

Word #1 was: \_\_\_\_\_ Word #2 was: \_\_\_\_\_

Word #3 was: \_\_\_\_\_ Word #4 was: \_\_\_\_\_

What did you like most about the seminar?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

What criticisms, if any, do you have?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

I Certify that I watched, in its entirety, the above-listed CLE Course

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



New Jersey Continuing  
Legal Education Services  
[www.NJCLES.com](http://www.NJCLES.com)

Presents:

**A Continuing Legal Education Seminar**



**“Survive ‘til Five!”**

A Comprehensive Review  
of

**EFFECTIVE  
COURTROOM  
TESTIMONY**

**LESSON PLAN** by Matthew Regulski, Assistant  
Prosecutor, Mercer County

## **Purpose**

- To familiarize law enforcement personnel with the techniques of effective communication and testimony in Court
- To avoid the common pitfalls of cross-examination
- To retain some shred of dignity from a very difficult process

## **“This Is How We Do It”**

\* Lecture by experienced Prosecutors in the areas of:

- Case Preparation

-Effective Techniques of Direct Examination

-Cross Examination

## **“Come On Down”**

\* Importance of the first meeting: first impressions are everything!

## **“Meetin’ Da Suits!”**

- All prosecutors are different
- Allows for the planning of logical presentation of facts
- In-depth analysis of the case from two perspectives
- Allows a discussion of trial strategies
- Opportunity to ask questions
- Allows the prosecutor to brief the officer of the style of the defense attorney

## **What We Need From You**

- Timeliness
- Familiarity with the case
- Professional attitude toward the prosecution of the case

## **What You Get In Return**

- Timeliness
- Familiarity with the case
- Respect for the officer
- Input from the prosecutor as to strategy

- Ability to ask questions and receive thoughtful responses

## **Direct Examination (Don't Get Too Comfortable!)**

- TELL THE TRUTH !
- Walk to the stand w/o hesitation
- Take the Oath like you mean it!
- If you don't understand something –say so!
- Don't guess – it's O.K to say “I don't know”
- If you estimate, call it an estimate.
- Objections – your silence is golden.
- If it needs an explanation – explain it!

- Of course you have discussed the case with the prosecutor! That is when you told him what happened – not the other way around.
- On direct, talk to whom the questioner directs that you answer; ie “please tell the jury”, “please tell the Court”.
- Do not look at the prosecutor for help, chances are he won’t be looking at you (but the Jury is!)
- **TELL THE TRUTH !**



## **Cross Examination**

(“All the fun of root canal w/o the needle!”)

“Cross – Excruciation”

Sequestration – it is not having a cat spayed

- Read all reports – even your partners
- How to refer to your report
- Information not in your report – the slow death

“Thank God Court Ends at 5:00”

- Explaining distances

- Organizing the disorganized witness
- Playing the guessing game
- It's not what you know – it's what you think you know!

## **TELL THE TRUTH**

A Jury will forgive a mistake, an oversight or a typo, they will not forgive a lie!