

## *Establishing Competence – Four Criteria*

According to Weissman (1991), there are four criteria required to establish competency.

1. The capacity to perceive facts accurately (e.g., mental capacity at the time of instant occurrence to observe or receive accurate impressions of the occurrence)
2. The capacity to recollect and recall (e.g., memory sufficient to retain an independent recollection of the observation)
3. The capacity to understand the oath (e.g., capacity to differentiate truth from falsehood, to comprehend the duty to tell the truth, and to understand the consequences of not fulfilling the duty)
4. The capacity to communicate based on personal knowledge of the facts (e.g., capacity to communicate the memory of such observation, and to understand simple questions about the occurrence)