

Preparing an Expert for Court

- Have the expert send a copy of his or her curriculum vita or resume in advance to the agency so that it can be given to the solicitor. If time does not permit, it should be brought to court.
- Clarify with the expert the exact and specific area of expertise. The solicitor will have to be able to state this in court with specificity.
- Inform the expert that he or she will be asked a variety of questions in order to be qualified. These may include:
 - education and degrees--where, what, when, with specificity
 - honors in school
 - specialization in a particular area of practice
 - licenses or certifications in the area of expertise
 - years of experience
 - publications
 - familiarity with relevant professional literature
 - number of cases, such as the one before the court, he or she has treated before
 - number of times qualified as an expert in court.
- Prepare the expert to testify specifically on the case before the court and have with them the specifics needed to provide well-documented testimony.
- Know what you are asking of the expert at the onset of the relationship.