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Tips For Selecting The Right Expert Witness Service

By Rosie Fletcher

Living in a litigious society has made many of us think of court settlement as our first rather than the last resort. Whenever a problem arises and ends up in a dispute, most of us prefer to have our dispute legally settled.

Thus, there's always a chance that you'll need the services of an expert witness at some point in your life. Hiring an expert witness can solidify your case against the other party; if you hire the right expert witness service, the company will be able to provide more than adequate proof and reliable testimony in court to support your claim.

Even if you don't need to hire the right expert witness service now, you could need one later so it's better to be prepared in advance. The expert witness service you'll avail of must meet the following criteria:

1. Adequate Courtship Experience

You can't hire a novice to act as your expert witness. Courtroom battles are vicious and if the expert witness doesn't have any experience in providing testimonies, his claims will be shredded to bits even if he's telling the truth. An experienced expert witness knows on the other hand how to handle himself in court and modify his behavior and speech depending on the type of lawyer or judge who's questioning him. An experienced expert witness knows when to act calm or passionate and above all, how to be utterly convincing.

2. Proficiency in Report Making

Expert witnesses are almost always required to submit detailed reports about their findings. If an expert witness doesn't have excellent writing skills and adequate experience in creating reports, he will once more be subject to more abuse from the other party's legal counsel. Facts can easily be overturned if they are not stated convincingly. Ask for samples of your expert witness reports to visualize how he can help win your case.

3. Achievements and Credentials

Although titles don't define a person, they do carry significant weight in the court room. Consider this: if a jury is debating on the quality of education being provided by a certain school, that type of expert witness will they be more inclined to believe one who has sufficient experience in teaching and have a long list of professional credits and certification to his name or one who has simply had the benefit of graduating from high school? It may not be fair but that's how the world or more specifically, the law works. Knowing this, why hire one who doesn't have enough credentials when you can hire an expert witness that has them?

4. Degree of Involvement in an Industry

If you are looking for an expert witness to help you win a dispute over a real estate property, you will do better if you hire an expert witness who happens to work in the real estate industry as well. Being an

active member of the industry helps the expert witness become a better judge and adviser. The expert witness doesn't rely on his observations and analytic skills alone to render a judgment; his actual work experience helps him greatly as well in coming up with valid and accurate results.

5. Training and Workshops Attended

Believe it or not, there are trainings, workshops and seminars offered to help expert witnesses improve in their line of work. These additional classes will help expert witnesses attain their goals in a more effective and efficient manner.

6. Paying the Right Price

Of course, expert witness services come in a range of prices. Their rates depend on the amount of experience they have and the extent of work they'll be expending for your case. It's your call if you wish to go over your budget and secure a favorable outcome of your case.

7. Reputation Matters

Lastly, although it's you who have hired the expert witness, he must still remember and understand that his primary duty is to help the court seek the truth. That's why his reputation matters as well. If he's known to take bribes and make dishonest or biased claims in favor of the hiring party, his professionalism will surely be questioned in the court room. In the worst case scenario, his opinion would be rendered invalid and you'll end up having hired him for no reason.

For more great expert witness related articles and resources check out

<http://expertwitnesshq.info>

Market yourself by becoming an on-line expert

By Jeff Gilman

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Get paid to tell people what you think. Indulge in shameless self promotion. Work at home or while the boss isn't looking. Promote your web site and business. Get noticed on the internet for free!

"An expert is a guy that traveled more than an hour to get to the job." – Anonymous

If it is true that the further from the client you are the more of an expert you are, then the internet is for you. And if you really do know what you are talking about, the opportunity is even greater and certainly things will work out better for the client! This article describes 'expert' web sites and how you can promote yourself on the internet by providing expert advice and services on line.

Expert web sites are meeting places, almost bulletin boards, where members (aka the unsuspecting public) can meet experts (you, me, and my 2nd year of law school son) to get advice. The sites make money from advertising and from a share of the revenue the expert charges for her consultation. We know who the unsuspecting public is. But the definition of an expert on these web sites is generally just someone who says they are an expert. I've signed up as an expert in a couple of places and no one has checked my quals. In fact the disclaimer for members generally includes the following kind of language: vendor 'does not have control over the quality, timing or legality of services actually delivered by the Experts'. In the words of a carnival barker, 'you pays your money and you takes your chances'.

This isn't necessarily a bad thing – who could guarantee quality or exercise control of all of the advice passed out over the internet? Who would want to? What you must recognize is that credibility is an issue you need to seriously address in these systems. You will get a reputation so you want to think carefully about the kind of, and range of, service you provide.

If your expertise is writing press releases, selecting after-dinner wines, writing software code, or otherwise producing a clear-cut deliverable, and you have work product to point to, I think these systems are worth exploring. If you can demonstrate what you do, draw a box around your service AND make a profit, you will probably have happy customers. On the other hand, if you can't draw a box around your service client expectations may get out of hand and you risk disappointing the client and loosing money yourself.

One experts' web site you should visit is www.swapsmarts.com. Swapsmarts has over 1400 experts and their range of expertise includes, in no particular order; cricket, mathematics, relationships, ecommerce, investing, writing, and astrology. And to think some people still don't believe free enterprise helps people. In researching this vignette, I visited www.askjeeves.com and asked Jeeves 'where can i become an expert'. (Jeeves doesn't care about capitalization, punctuation, or syntax. Unlike my editor, school teachers before him, parents before them, and so on.) Jeeves tells me I can become:

a volunteer wedding expert

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an expert in anything in the Greater Milwaukee area at www.asktheexperts.org,

a computer expert helping students at Stanford <http://www-facilities.stanford.edu/sg/expert.html>,

a pole barn expert,

a travel expert, and my favorite

How to Make Extra Money as an Expert Witness from www.welldressedmonkey.com.

The lunacy aside, expert web sites are a good idea. They help solve the classic problem in marketing – meeting people and getting leads. This problem will never go away but expert systems really do give you the opportunity to get the introduction.

Comments on this article? Have an extra plate at the dinner table? Contact me!

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