

Opening Statement Considerations

- Importance of Opening-Decides Most cases
- Goal of Opening- Preview Evidence
- Structure-Discuss Evidence Around Themes
- Avoid Argument
- Discuss Only What You Expect To Be Admissible
- Focus On Highlight-Avoid Detail
- Preview Answers To Problems With Your Case
- Bond With Jury And Use Limited Exhibits
- Control- Do Not Be Baited Into Theatrics And Lose Credibility
- Know Your Judge
- Study Your Opponent
- Watch Your Time Limit
- Pre-Opening Exhibit Exchange
- Powerpoints
- Establish Credibility As Messenger of Correct Information