

Establishing Expertise as an Expert Witness

Overview

August 12, 2010



NATIONAL CENTER
on Domestic and Sexual Violence
training • consulting • advocacy

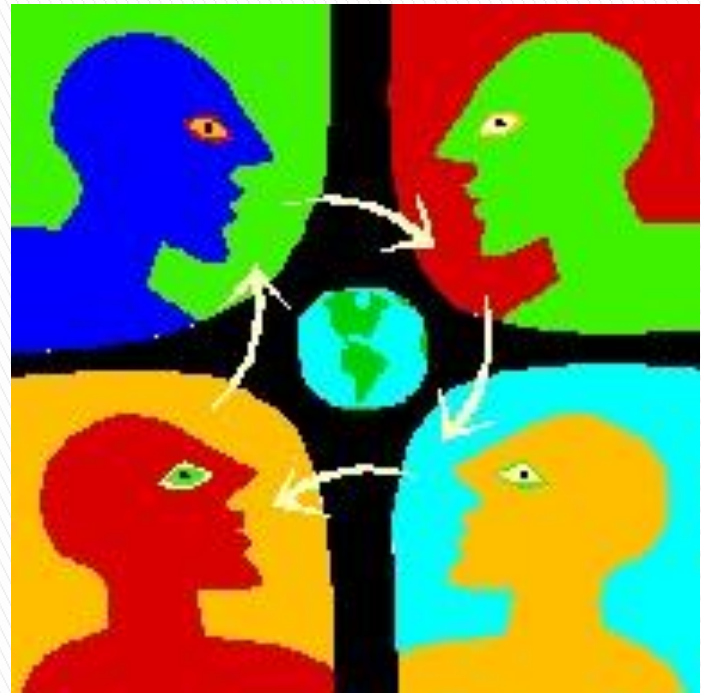
Training generously funded by:

IOLTA



This is Your Training

- ▶ LISTEN with an open mind.
- ▶ ASK questions respectfully.
- ▶ SHARE what you know.



»» Training Agenda & Objectives

This Training Promises...

- ▶ ...interaction
- ▶ ...first-hand experience from the experts
- ▶ ...presentations, discussions and multi-media
- ▶ ...practical and skill-based learning
- ▶ ...FUN



Agenda – *Today*



- ▶ Role of Expert Witnesses and Types of Cases
- ▶ The Actual Work of an Expert Witness
- ▶ Tips, Tragedies and Triumphs
- ▶ Use of an Expert Witness
 - Review actual testimony
- ▶ The Changing Role of Advocates and Avoiding Allegations of the Unauthorized Practice of Law

Agenda – *Tomorrow*

▶ Testifying as an Expert Witness – Courthouse

- Demonstration with a Judge, attorneys and a seasoned expert witness
- Opportunity to practice

▶ Current Trends in Court and the Use of Expert Witnesses



▶ Agency Policies / Roles / Things that Surface


▶ The Expert Witness as Part of the Team

- Personal trial experience from a survivor


Objectives



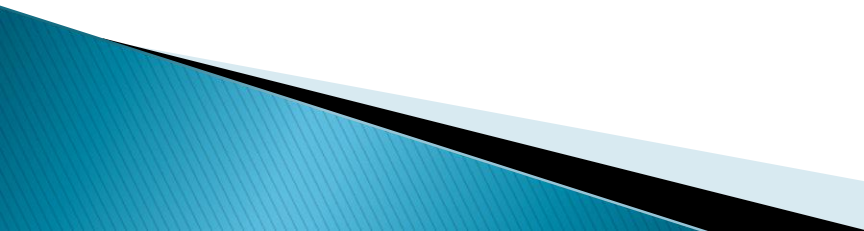
- **Understand** the role of the advocate.



- **Understand** the impact of recent Supreme Court decisions and new legislation on advocates' work and the safety of victims.




- **Explore** the intersection of advocacy and the unauthorized practice of law.




Objectives



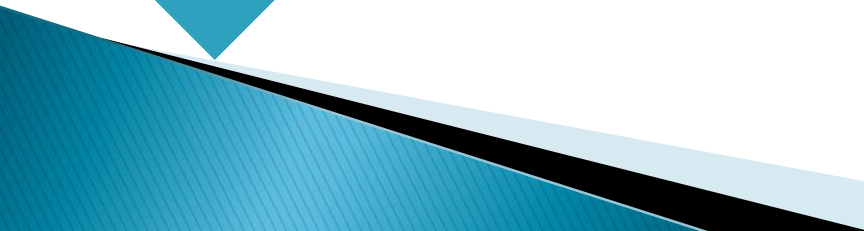
- **Understand** the role of an expert witness.



- **Identify** what the court requires of expert witnesses; common questions and issues; and challenges facing advocates as expert witnesses.



- **Understand** the court proceedings and the role of an expert witness in those proceedings.



Objectives

- **Provide** a hands-on approach and practicum to the process of being an expert witness.
- **Practice** with seasoned attorneys on questioning that can be expected in a courtroom.
- **Compile** a resume as an expert witness.

Objectives

- **Enhance** skills in giving effective testimony and presentation of facts, research and credentials.
- **Understand** what the judicial system is looking for when qualifying an expert witness.
- **Understand** how defense attorneys and prosecutors use victims, advocates and expert witnesses in trial.

Objectives

- **Identify** how criminal cases can affect victims, the role of the advocate and the use of expert witness testimony in criminal cases.
- **Identify** how victims may be affected with the intersection of family law cases.
- **Understand** role in helping victims through court processes, including how mediation, parenting coordinators and changes in custody and parenting statutes have affected victims.

Course Materials / Handouts

- ▶ Available online at:



http://www.ncdsv.org/publications_ConfMatls_ND-ExpWit_8-2010.html

Ready?

