## **OBJECTIONS**

### TYPES OF OBJECTIONS

- FORM OF THE QUESTION (leading, compound, argumentative, calls for a narrative, etc.)
- 2. QUESTION CALLS FOR INADMISSIBLE EVIDENCE (relevancy, hearsay, prejudicial, etc.)
- 3. THE ANSWER (volunteering, hearsay, etc.)
- 4. IMPROPER CONDUCT (marking up opponent's exhibit, displaying an exhibit before received in evidence, etc.)

### TYPES OF OBJECTIONS

- 5. IMPROPER EXHIBIT (lack of foundation, hearsay, etc.)
- 6. IMPROPER ARGUMENT (voir dire, openings, closings)
- 7. EVERYTHING ELSE

### RULES FOR OBJECTING

- 1. HAVE A REASON FOR OBJECTING
  - A. Don't object unless you are being hurt
  - B. Other reasons for objecting:
    - 1) Preserve the record for appeal
    - 2) Break up a narrative
    - 3) Force the offering of favorable evidence (106)
- WILL OBJECTING MAKE IT WORSE
- 3. WILL THE OBJECTION BE SUSTAINED
- 4. CAN YOU AVOID MAKING THE OBJECTION IN FRONT OF THE JURY

## MAKING OBJECTIONS

- 1. TIMELY
- 2. STAND
- 3. STATE "OBJECTION"
- 4. GIVE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF GROUNDS
- 5. ADDRESS THE JUDGE

## MAKING OBJECTIONS

- 6. SOUND CONFIDENT
- 7. BE ALERT
- 8. CONTINUING OBJECTIONS
- 9. IF TO FORM, DON'T ARGUE
- 10. MOTIONS IN LIMINE

#### RESPONDING

- REQUEST PERMISSION TO APPROACH & ARGUE
- WAIT FOR RULING
- MAKE CONDITIONAL OFFER
- MAKE AN OFFER OF PROOF
- IF OVERRULED, ASK AGAIN

#### PRESERVING ERROR

- Objection Sustained
  - Specify purpose for which evidence is being offered and reasons for admission
  - Make an offer of proof
- Objection Overuled
  - Make a timely objection
  - Specific grounds
  - Correct grounds
  - Ruling

# OBJECTIONS TO FORM OF QUESTION

- Leading
- Argumentative
- Ambiguous/Unintelligible
- Compound
- Calls for a Narrative/Too Broad
- Asked and Answered
- Misquotes the Witness or Prior Answer
- Assumes Facts Not in Evidence

## OBJECTIONS TO SUBSTANCE OF QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

- Relevancy
- 2. Incompetent
- 3. Hearsay
- 4. Inadmissible Opinion
- 5. Inadmissible Conclusion
- 6. Speculation
- 7. Foundation

## OBJECTIONS TO SUBSTANCE OF QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

- 8. Improper Impeachment
- Improper Rehabilitation
- 10. Cumulative
- 11. Best Evidence Rule Document Speaks for Itself
- 12. Privileged
- 13. Prejudice