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Mr. Clifford has served on the Board of Visitors of the Stanford Law School and is a member of the American and the California State Bar Associations. He serves on various committees relating to insurance and litigation matters.

Introduction

This book discusses expert testimony from the selection of your expert (Chapter 1), through your preparation (Chapter 2), to the testimony of your expert (Chapter 3) and the cross-examination of the opposing expert (Chapter 4). The final chapter examines the testimony of frequently used expert witnesses.

Throughout the book there are references to federal authorities and particularly to the Federal Rules of Evidence. The Federal Rules of Evidence have been adopted in substantial part by more than 20 states and many states that have not adopted the federal rules have enacted similar evidentiary rules. Clearly, however, you must be familiar with the applicable code provisions and case authorities of your own jurisdiction relating to expert testimony.

Many sections are followed by summaries of representative cases illustrative of the principles discussed. The cases might not always be appropriate for your jurisdiction, but through key indices and cross-references you should be able to locate pertinent authority. Because of the number of jurisdictions whose rules of evidence are based upon the federal rules, federal cases have been emphasized.

The checklists provide reminders and suggestions relating to the section; the tactics comments contain ideas and strategies that have proved useful to experienced practitioners.

The loose leaf format enables you to supplement the material with appropriate cases from your jurisdiction, as well as checklists and tactics which have proven helpful in your practice. It is hoped that it will prove to be a practical, usable book for active trial practitioners as well as those who only occasionally are faced with the need to qualify or attack an expert witness in court.

Robert C. Clifford