TIMED AGENDA

:00	Intro to the topic and discussion of the "old way"
:10	Discussion of repercussions of sticking to the old method of prepping experts in contrast to the goals of lay witness testimony
:20	More modern, witness-forward method of preparing lay witnesses for trial/deposition testimony (theoretical application)
:40	Discussion of the practical application of that method
:50	Explanation of anticipated results and examples
1:00	Q&A
1:15	End
TOTAL MINUTES: 60 MIN AND 15 MIN Q&A	

Program Start Time: 9:30 am PT
Program End Time: 10:45 am PT

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

O'Connell, Jennifer. (2022) *Prepping Lay Witnesses for Success*, PowerPoint, (13 slides)

TRIAL GUIDES COURSE NO. 221115

DESCRIPTION

Preparing a lay witness can be a daunting task. They often have no frame of reference for legal matters and can easily feel overwhelmed and anxious as you ready them for deposition and trial.

Far too often, attorneys get caught in the trap of getting together with their witnesses right before trial. Cramming the day before is often ineffective and causes increased stress for your witnesses. Learning how to better identify the causes of witness anxiety, and any potential minefields will only strengthen their testimony and your case. While a single witness will rarely win your case, a poorly prepared witness can certainly lose it.

Fortunately, there is a better way. Trial lawyer and seasoned witness preparer, Jennifer K. O'Connell, will teach you a proven approach for lay witness preparation. Through the RISE system—*Reassure, Identify, Simplify, Empower*—O'Connell will teach you how to get your witnesses to embrace their truth in their own language, feel more confident in the courtroom, and deliver more effective testimony in deposition and trial.

It's time to abandon the old trap of badly preparing your lay witnesses. Join Jennifer O'Connell for this 60-minute masterclass as she shares how experienced trial lawyers prepare their witnesses, and their cases, to win.

PRESENTER

JENNIFER K. O'CONNELL

- Trial Attorney, Queener Law
- J.D., Appalachian School of Law and University of Tennessee College of Law
- B.S., East Tennessee State University Honors College, Bachelors of Science, Political Science and Biology

Admissions: Colorado & Tennesee

Jennifer is the Owner and Managing Partner of the Colorado Office of Queener Law. She is originally from the Great Smoky Mountains of Knoxville, Tennessee and is now a proud Denverite.

Jennifer has practiced in four federal courts, over thirty-five counties, and has argued before the Court of Appeals. She has been named Law Week's Barrister's Best Civil Litigator in the State of Colorado and the New Trial Lawyer of the Year shortly after joining the Colorado Bar. She has been published in Lexis Nexis Expert Commentary and holds a record jury verdict for punitive damages in a commercial trucking collision case.

Jennifer prides herself on being a trial attorney and on her focus on litigation. She and her team primarily represent clients injured in premises liability and commercial trucking collisions. Additionally, Jennifer acts as a consulting expert for her colleagues in the areas of client and witness preparation and discovery and Rule 30(b)(6) depositions.

Jennifer's true love, though, is her four-legged children. She and her partner Andrew have three of their own and regularly foster and train service dogs in her role as Vice President of the Rescue for PTSD, a non-profit that rescues dogs and trains them to provide to Veterans free of charge.

WEBSITE
https://queenerlaw.com/

ASSOCIATIONS
- Vice President – The Rescue for PTSD
- InnerCircle Mastermind – Co-Founder and Co-Chair
- Colorado Trial Lawyers Association – Board Member, Seminar Committee, and Co-Chair of Blockbuster Conference Committee
- Co-Chair of Women's Trial Lawyer Network and Co-Chair of Open Forum
- Colorado Bar Association Leadership Training Graduate
- Denver Bar Association
- Colorado Bar Association
- American Association for Justice
- National Trial Lawyers

HONORS
- *Law Week's Barrister's Best Civil Litigator in the State of Colorado 2020*
- *Colorado Trial Lawyer's Association's New Trial Lawyer of the Year 2020*
- *Super Lawyers Rising Star – 2022*