

DOCUMENT 13

THE COMPLETE TRIAL DAY WALKTHROUGH

BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME

Review your binder. Bring all documents. Dress conservatively. Stop studying and focus on remaining calm.

ARRIVAL AT COURT

Arrive 30–45 minutes early. Observe the courtroom. Organize your materials. Avoid discussing the case unnecessarily.

CASE IS CALLED

Judge: 'Are you ready to proceed?' Defendant: 'Yes, Your Honor.'

PRO PER STATUS

Judge: 'Are you represented by counsel?' Defendant: 'No, Your Honor. I am appearing pro per and have filed a Motion for Recognition of Pro Per Status.'

VOIR DIRE

Ask only a few carefully selected questions. Defendant: 'Can everyone agree that I am presumed innocent right now?' Listen carefully. Do not argue with answers.

OPENING STATEMENT

Explain what the evidence will show. Do not argue. Focus on facts and burden of proof.

PROSECUTION CASE

Take notes. Listen carefully. Identify assumptions, missing facts, and opportunities for cross examination.

CROSS EXAMINATION

One fact. One question. One answer. Question: 'You did not observe commercial activity, correct?' Answer: 'Correct.'

OBJECTIONS

Stand. State the objection. Sit down. Example: 'Objection, hearsay.'

CLOSING ARGUMENT

Remind the jury of what was proven and what was not proven. Focus on burden of proof.

VERDICT

Remain calm regardless of outcome. Respect the jury and the Court.

POST-VERDICT

If necessary, preserve issues, file motions, and begin the appellate sequence already included in this package.

FINAL PRINCIPLE

A trial is not won through emotion. It is navigated through preparation, structure, credibility, and disciplined execution.