



Engineering Sciences Section – 2011

C10 Misleading Expert Testimony: Examples, Causes, and Reforms

Paul C. Giannelli, JD, LL.M., Case Western Reserve University Law School, 11075 East Boulevard, Cleveland, OH 44106

After attending this presentation, experts and attorneys should be able to recognize a variety of testimony that may mislead a jury and how to avoid such testimony.

This presentation will impact the forensic science community by alerting experts and attorneys to problematic testimony and ways to avoid it.

This presentation will provide examples of misleading testimony from actual cases. Expert testimony may be misleading for several different reasons. Obviously, false testimony is misleading. More commonly, testimony may mislead because it includes overstatements or because statistics are improperly used. It can also be misleading because it is incomplete. Even technically accurate statements may mislead the jury. Sometimes the cause of misleading testimony is the expert and sometimes it is the fault of the attorneys.

Misleading Expert Testimony, Expert Testimony, Misleading Testimony