

CONTENTS

<i>Preface</i>	xiii
<i>About the Editors</i>	xv
<i>About the Authors</i>	xvii
Chapter 1	
Qualifying the Construction Expert Witness	I
<i>Attorney's Perspective by Kevin Walsh</i>	
<i>Expert's Perspective by Timothy R. Chitester</i>	
I. Introduction	1
II. Types of Forensic Construction Experts	3
A. Standard of Care Experts	3
B. Damages Experts	4
C. Delay and Disruption Experts	4
D. Combination Experts	5
III. Obligation of the Expert and Defining the Scope of the Expert's Retention	7
IV. Protecting Credibility	10
V. Qualifying an Expert through Voir Dire	12
VI. Mastering the Preparation of Written Reports	16
VII. Mastering the Oral Presentation of Observations and Opinions	18
Chapter 2	
Finding and Engaging the Right Expert Witness	21
<i>Attorney's Perspective by Mike Tarullo</i>	
<i>Expert's Perspective by Chris Beirise</i>	
I. Networking with Colleagues—Soliciting Referrals	21
II. The Value of Connections through the Forum	22
III. Expert Witness Listings and Websites	23
IV. Reviewing and Evaluating Professional Resumes of Experts	24
V. Checking Conflicts of Interest and References	26
VI. Interviewing an Expert Witness—Looking for Trustworthiness, Comfort, and Confidence	27
VII. Engagement Decisions Based on Qualifications versus Estimated Fees	29
VIII. Consulting Experts versus Testifying Experts	31
IX. Summary	32

Chapter 3**Scoping and Informing the Expert Witness 35***Attorney's Perspective by Jeffrey A. Sykes**Expert's Perspective by Robert H. Pratt*

I. Introduction	35
II. Scoping	36
III. The Purpose of the Engagement	36
IV. Defining the Subject Matter of Expert Opinion	39
V. Scoping the Expert	42
VI. Scoping Multiple or Jointly Engaged Experts	44
A. Multiple Experts	44
B. Jointly Engaged Experts	45
VII. Scoping Risks	47
VIII. Litigation Support Scope	48
IX. Providing Background Information	49
X. Providing Documents	50
A. Determining What Documents Are Needed and Exist	50
B. Providing Too Many Documents	51
C. Providing Too Few Documents	51
D. Providing Documents Too Late	52
XI. Providing Other Information and Material	53
XII. Informing Continuously	55
XIII. Information Subject to Confidentiality Agreements and Protective Orders	55

Chapter 4**Managing the Expert Witness 59***Attorney's Perspective by Arthur D. Brannan**Expert's Perspective by C.G. "Sonny" Jester*

I. Introduction	59
II. Managing the Initial Engagement Phase	61
A. The Expert's Scope of Services	61
B. The Expert's Deliverables and Schedule	62
C. The Expert's Budget Estimate	63
D. Memorializing the Expert's Engagement	64
III. Managing the Investigation and Analysis Phase	66
IV. Managing the Opinion and Report Phase	69
A. The Expert's Opinion	69
B. The Expert's Report	70
C. Amended and Supplemental Expert Reports	71
D. Rebuttal Opinions and Reports	72
E. The Expert's Lifeblood	72
V. Managing the Testimony Phase	73
VI. Communications between Counsel and the Expert	73
VII. Managing/Coordinating Liability and Damages Experts	74
VIII. Conclusion	76

Chapter 5	
Preparing the Expert Witness for Deposition or Trial	77
<i>Attorney's Perspective by Julianne Wheeler</i>	
<i>Expert's Perspective by Frank Giunta</i>	
I. Deposition Preparation Meeting(s) with Counsel	77
A. Before Meeting with Counsel	77
B. Meetings with Counsel	78
II. Deposition Preparation Meetings between Expert and Client's Key Personnel and Fact Witnesses	81
A. Accurately Identify Key Personnel and Fact Witnesses	81
B. Flesh Out Any Inconsistencies/Misunderstandings	81
C. The Importance of a Frame of Reference/Timeline	82
III. Answering Questions: Do's and Don'ts and Etiquette	83
A. The Skills Associated with "Listening to Questions"	83
B. Waiting for Counsel's Opportunity to Object	83
C. Answering the Question Truthfully and Concisely	84
D. An Expert's Skillful Art of Limiting Answers: Advising Expert on Volunteering Information during Depositions	84
E. Maintaining Composure, Politeness, and Professional Demeanor in the Face of Antagonistic Questioning	85
F. Testifying at the Deposition	86
G. Professional Demeanor and Composure	88
IV. Independent Expert or Advocate?	88
A. Prior to Trial	90
B. Testifying at Trial	91
Chapter 6	
Preparing or Defending Daubert Motions Limiting Expert Witness Testimony: "Motions in Limine"	93
<i>Attorney's Perspective by Daniel S. Brennan</i>	
<i>Expert's Perspective by Paul Ficca</i>	
<i>Expert's Perspective by Todd Mohr</i>	
I. Challenging/Defending an Expert's Qualifications	93
II. Challenging/Defending an Expert's Fundamental Premises	99
III. Challenging/Defending an Expert's Methods of Investigation	102
A. Use of Appropriate and Generally Accepted Methodologies	105
B. Sufficient Documentation of Approach, Methodology, and Investigation	108
C. Conduct and Use of Relevant Interviews and Availability of Source Documents in Support of the Choice of Methods	108
D. Challenging/Defending an Expert's Methods of Analysis as Being Unscientific	109
E. Challenging/Defending an Expert's Interpolation or Extrapolation Methods	112
F. Challenging/Defending an Expert's Independence	116
G. Challenging/Defending an Expert's Rationale for Allocation of Responsibility	119

- H. Challenging/Defending an Expert's Interpretation and Observations Bordering on "Legal Conclusions" 122
- IV. Summary 124

Chapter 7

How Experts Are Affected by the Dispute Resolution Forum 125

Attorney's Perspective by Adrian L. Bastianelli, III

Expert's Perspective by Andrew B. Rhodes

- I. The Difference in Knowledge of the Trier-of-Fact between Jury, Judge, and Arbitrator 125
- II. Formality of Court versus Informality of Arbitration 128
- III. Cross-Examination 130
- IV. Electronic Record of Expert's Testimony and Court's Findings 132
- V. Lack of Record in Most Arbitrations 134
- VI. Expert's Role in Mediation 135
- VII. Meetings between Experts—Rule 408 Protection—"Hot-Tubbing" 136
- VIII. Adjudication/When and How the Decision Is Made 138
- IX. Experts Serving as Arbitration Panel Members 140
- X. Experts Serving on Dispute Resolution Boards (DRBs) and Expert Presentations to DRBs 141

Chapter 8

Words of Advice from Those Who Have Engaged Forensic Construction Expert Witnesses 143

- Protect the Expert Witness 143
By Arthur D. Brannan
- Advice on Engaging Experts 146
By Joel D. Heusinger
- Pay Attention to Your Expert Witnesses 148
By Jeffrey A. Sykes
 - Pay Attention to the Need for an Expert Witness 148
 - Pay Attention to Who You Engage 149
 - Pay Attention to the Expert Witness's Methodology 149
 - Pay Attention to the Expert after You Engage Her 150
 - Pay Attention to the Expert Witness after the Engagement Ends 150

Chapter 9

Words of Advice from Forensic Construction Expert Witnesses 153

- Considerations for Compliance with Federal Rule 26(a)(2)(B)—Disclosure of Expert Testimony and Provision of Written Reports 153
By Paul Ficca and Jack Westphal
 - Tip I: Clearly Distinguish Source Documents from the Expert's Work-Product 154

Tip 2: Develop a Uniform Numbering System So Each Exhibit Can Be Easily Referenced and Archived by Number	154
Tip 3: Be Proactive about Document Organization and Management	155
Tip 4: Work-Product and Claim Quantification Standards	155
Three Key Tips	156
<i>By Jeff Jackmond</i>	
Getting to the Heart of the Dispute (Hot-Tubbing)	156
A “Quickie” Work-Product for Negotiations Seldom Works	157
One Size Does Not Fit All	157
Give Your Expert a Fighting Chance	158
<i>By Denise Martini</i>	
Timely Hire the Expert	158
Think about What You Want the Expert to Analyze	159
Timely Give the Expert the Information He Needs	159
In Closing	162
Expert Lessons Learned	162
<i>By Erik L. Nelson</i>	
Introduction	162
Bell Bottoms	162
Hide the Evidence	163
Twisted and Racked	164
Tips on Being an Expert Witness	165
<i>By Robert H. Pratt</i>	
Field Experience Is Invaluable	165
Pursuit of Credentials Useful to an Expert	166
The Benefits of Teaching Others	166
First Opportunity to Testify Is Aided by Publication of an Article or Paper	167
Fundamental Motivation to Become a Forensic Expert Witness	167
When More Is Really Less	167
<i>By C.G. “Sonny” Jester</i>	
From the Expert’s Perspective	167
Key Points on Transitioning from a U.S. Domestic Expert to an International Expert	169
<i>By Timothy R. Chitester</i>	
Client Management	170
Counsel Instruction	170
Direct Testimony	170
Discovery	171
Opposing Expert Interface	171

Construction Expert Confidential	172
By <i>Frank G. Adams</i>	
Introduction	172
Lesson 1: In the Beginning, There Was Not Understanding	173
Lesson 2: The More Mistakes, the More Profound	
the Level of Learning	173
Lesson 3: Be Sensitive to Client Expectations	175
Lesson 4: Client Success Does Not Equal Success for the Expert	176
Lesson 5: Risk Assessment Services Can Add a Layer of Risk	176
Lesson 6: The Learning Curve Can Be a Slippery Slope	177
Lesson 7: Proactive Expert Services	178
Lesson 8: Expert Services for International Clients	178
Lesson 9: Some Opportunities Should Be Declined	180
Lesson 10: Misguided Expert Services Expansion	181
Lesson 11: Referrals from Competitors	182
Lesson 12: Quicksand Opportunities Service Expansion	184
Lesson 13: Expert Settlement Negotiations	185
Lesson 14: Fact Witness Reliability	186
Lesson 15: Expert Work-Product Errors	187
Lesson 16: Budgets Are Problematic	188
Lesson 17: It Settled—Good Luck Getting Paid	189
Know Your Limits	189
By <i>Chris Beirise</i>	
The Importance of Communication	191
By <i>Andrew Rhodes</i>	
Chapter 10	
Words of Advice from Those Who Have Served	
as Arbitrators Hearing and Giving Proper Weight	
to Expert Witness Testimony	193
Observations and Words of Advice on Expert Testimony from an Arbitrator	193
By <i>Adrian L. Bastianelli, III</i>	
The Key to Success: Preparation	193
Know Which Facts Are Relevant and Which Ones Are Not	193
Expert Preparation Shouldn't Stop Until the Expert	
Is Done Testifying	195
Tips for the Expert on Cross-Examination	195
Tips for the Cross-Examiner	197
Conclusion	202
Words of Advice from an Arbitrator on Preparing and Presenting Expert	
Evidence in an Arbitration	202
By <i>John W. Hinchey</i>	
Selecting the Expert	203
Vetting the Expert	204

Scope of Expertise	204
Role of the Expert	205
The Expert Report	206
Reconciling Expert Reports	208
Presenting Expert Testimony	209
Summary	211
Arbitrating Conflicting Construction Testimony of Experts	212
By <i>Allen L. Overcash</i>	
Dealing with Complex Construction Facts	212
An Illustration of Expert Evidence	212
Methods of Organizing Expert Testimony	215
Conclusion	216
An Arbitrator's View of Expert Witnesses	217
By <i>Thomas L. Rosenberg</i>	
Words of Wisdom from an Arbitrator	221
By <i>Allison J. Snyder</i>	
Experts	221
Consider Calling the Expert Early in Your Case	221
The Expert as Storyteller	222
The Attorney Must Learn the Case Too	222
Don't Embarrass—Educate!	223
Emphasize Efficiency	223
Do Not Gloss over Reality	223
Focus on Damages First and Last	224
Experts at Site Visits	224
Getting to the Truth through Hot-Tubbing	224
Simplify, Simplify, Simplify!	225
Expert Presentations—Too Much/Too Little or Just Right	226
By <i>Wendy Kennedy Venoit</i>	