
Q&A | Witnesses 101 Webinar | April 8, 2022

The questions below were posted in the chat throughout the webinar. They were asked and answered in this order, consistent with the webinar presentation.

What would you suggest GALs do if the judge seems reluctant to enforce their own case management order? Or always seems to find an exception for it?

This question was answered verbally by the presenters.

Re: Discovery:

OCR *reimburses* for discovery, transcripts, and subpoenas. OCR *pays* investigators directly. Please see our billing policies: <https://coloradochildrep.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/OCR-Billing-Policies-and-Procedures.pdf>

The OCR does not have a list of approved investigators but at times helps attorneys find investigators through ADC. Also feel free to use our listserv and our judicial districts group email lists to find investigators from other attorneys.

Re: Choosing witnesses and number of witnesses thoughtfully

A case consultant (CC) is part of the GAL legal team and cannot be used as a witness. Case consultants can help with many tasks related to investigation. Please visit the [CC Center](#) to read about case consultants and to request to work with a case consultant.

In addition to the answer provided verbally: In jury trials, brevity and directed presentation of evidence is important. You don't want to lose the trier of fact.

How much time to anticipate for a trial?

In addition to the answer provided verbally: I can't imagine a contested termination hearing should be less than a 1/2 day to create a good appellate record. If parent(s) appear, then more likely to be a day. BUT it's the judges' call ultimately.