

Entering Superior Court

- o Think Formal even when not on the record.
- o Introduce yourself: clerk, bailiff and reporter
- o Ask where to sit if unsure. Do not assume, better to ask
- o Do not bring beverages unless you have permission.
- o Introduce your investigator and or investigating officer to court staff
- o Let bailiff know of any security issues

Handy Materials

- o List of crimes of moral turpitude
- o List of 1170H eligible offenses
- o List of common enhancements and what their worth
- o List of no probation allegations
- o List of prior offenses and what they are worth
- o Office phone list
- o Superior Court phone list per Dept.
- o Evidence Code or App
- o Penal Code App
- o Public Defender/Alt PD phone list
- o List of Informations for all your cases

Superior Court Hearings:

- o Witness list for Judge, Court Clerk, Court Reporter and Defense Counsel
- o Time Estimates on your motions and or orally.
- o Scheduling issues: Be upfront as soon as you know about them.
- o Appraise the Judge of any waivers and or stips
- o Tell your clerk your approximate # of stips and when you will be introducing the majority of them.
- o Submit 402 motions in writing along with jury instructions and verdict forms at the beginning of the trial.

Voir Dire

- o You have TIME!!!! So take it.
- o Your examples need to be more sophisticated than cookie crumbs, cherry pies or other simplistic examples.
- o If the crime is serious you want to be careful of using trivial examples as they devalue your case.
- o Current events and other serious crimes not charged in your case are good.

Protecting the Record:

- o Rules:
 - o Capital cases: everything is on the record, even scheduling. You need to know this in case you are asked to make an appearance on a capital case.
 - o Life Cases: summarize any discussions off the record of significance and put them on the record or ask the court to make a record.

Protecting the Record

- o Regular Cases: The record is your friend if you know how and when to speak!
 - o Waivers/ Stips must be on the record!
 - o Diagrams: Make a good record or is all a waste of time.
 - o Demeanor and emotion cannot be taken down by the reporter. Is up to you to describe and make part of your record where appropriate and relevant to your ruling:
 - o Greening a witness state of mind evidence, impeachment, immunity testimony, ID or lack of ID