

Confidence in the Courtroom

Understanding the Federal Rules of Evidence

James Headley and Corey Osborn

UNLIKE ANY OTHER BOOK ON THE MARKET!

- A concise and practical guide to the rules of evidence used in mock and real trials
- Presents and explains the rules of evidence in a logical and understandable fashion



About This Title

Confidence in the Courtroom is a practical guide to understanding the federal rules of evidence and how they are applied. Lawyers have a responsibility to intro- duce evidence that helps their client and to prevent opponents from introducing evidence that is improper. The judge, the person deciding what evidence gets in and what evidence stays out, uses legal reasoning to apply the rules of evidence to the facts of the case. Understanding how legal professionals think and the way they analyze problems will help readers communicate effectively with the judge and get the evidentiary rulings they want. For that reason, the first chapter of this work focuses on legal reasoning.

The focus of the remaining chapters in this work is on specific federal rules of evidence. The most practical and useful rules have been selected and presented in a manageable way. However, this approach is not exhaustive and does not cover every federal rule of evidence. As readers study these rules, they should first focus on the purpose and scope of each individual rule. As they become more familiar with the rules, they will quickly begin to see that the rules often overlap. In fact, intro-ducing a single piece of evidence will always involve thinking about many of the rules and how they relate to each other. Referring back to earlier chapters will help readers to see the big picture when they begin to plan how the evidence in their case should be handled.

Confidence in the Courtroom is designed to introduce the process of legal reasoning and the basic principles of evidence to anyone preparing for trial. Whether you are an attorney faced with presenting your client's case, anadvocacy or mock trial student preparing for your trial, or a student studying evidence for the first time, the tools introduced here will allow you to step into the courtroom and make your arguments with confidence.

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