



Ground Rules for Witnesses

Each witness shall be provided the following ground rules in advance, and will be asked to verbally state his/her agreement to follow such ground rules prior to presenting any testimony.

1. All testimony will be presented honestly, speaking in truth, and in love. (“Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body” Eph. 4:25; “Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices” Col. 3:9)
2. Testimony shall be courteous and respectful. (“Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.” Col. 4:6)
3. Testimony will not assume motives or imply motives on other people. (“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.” Phil. 2:3 - 4)
4. Testimony will avoid harsh language, slander, or other words meant to tear down rather than build up another. (“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.” Eph. 4:29 - 31)
5. Testimony in response to questions of an attorney shall be cooperative rather than adversarial. (“Do everything without complaining or arguing,” Phil. 2:14)
6. Testimony shall be complete, avoiding partial or incomplete information.
7. Testimony should be as direct and succinct as possible, avoiding repetitive testimony.
8. Responses to questions should be responsive to the subject matter of the question.