

Client preparation for Temporary Orders hearing

Rules of testimony

- 1) Tell the truth
- 2) Listen to the question asked of you and take a breathe before you answer to gather your thoughts. If you don't understand the question then ask for clarification.
- 3) Do not volunteer information because this is not a conversation you are having this is testify in court. The best answers are "yes", "no", "I don't know" or "I don't remember". Try not use the words "never" and "always".
- 4) Be polite. Don't call the other side "liar" or any derogatory names. Don't get angry and avoid arguing with the attorney. The Judge is always paying attention.
- 5) If an attorney objects then stop talking. If the objection is sustained then don't answer. If the objection is overruled then ask for the question to be repeated.
- 6) Appear confident but not angry or hostile.

What not to wear to court

- 1) No sleeveless shirts
- 2) No fancy jewelry
- 3) No fancy clothes
- 4) No short skirts nor low cut tops

*attire should be conservative and neat

What issues will be addressed at this hearing? (this is no an exhaustive list)

- 1) What rights each parent will have with regards to the children?
- 2) Who will have primary custody of the kids?
- 3) What visitation schedule will be in place for the children?
- 4) Who will reside in the home?
- 5) Who will pay which bills?
- 6) Who will drive which car?
- 7) Whether temporary spousal support is awarded?
- 8) Who will have control of assets?