

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF EXPERTS (Shamelessly patterned and built from material stolen from NCIDS who, having shamelessly stolen from Paul Herzog, let me get near it.)

1. THOU SHALT THINK CRITICALLY ABOUT THE FACTS OF THY CASE BEFORE DECLARING THY EXPERT NEEDS.
2. THOU SHALT READ AS MUCH RESEARCH IN EXPERT FIELDS AS NEEDED TO TEACH TO THE UNKNOWING, FOR IT IS WRITTEN: KNOWLEDGE IS THE FOUNTAIN FROM WHICH ALL RIGHTEOUS DECISIONS FLOW.
3. THOU SHALT COMPORT WITH THE RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND SEEK WITNESSES THYSELF FOR THY CLIENT TO CONTAIN COSTS AND FIND THE RIGHTEOUS AND GOOD DEFENDERS OF THE TRUTH.
4. THOU MAY COVET THY NEIGHBOR'S EXPERTS, BUT THOU SHALT NOT SUBSTITUTE THE JUDGEMENT OF OTHERS FOR THINE OWN IN SELECTING THE STRONGEST CHAMPION FOR THY CAUSE.
5. THOU SHALT THOROUGHLY AND COMPLETELY INVESTIGATE EVERY PROFFERED CHAMPION, INCLUDING THINE OWN, FOR BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO QUESTION THEIR OWN BEFORE DECIMATING OTHERS.
6. THOU SHALT EDUCATE THINE OWN EXPERT IN THE WAYS OF McGRADY BEFORE PERMITTING THE UNHOLY TO CHALLENGE YOUR CHAMPION FOR BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE MINDFUL OF THE GATEKEEPER RULES.
7. THOU SHALT DEMAND THE UNHOLY CHAMPIONS OF OPPOSING COUNSEL'S ILL CONCEIVED THEORIES PROVE THEMSELVES IN ALL THINGS.
8. THOU SHALT DEMAND BOTH WORKS CITED AND BIBLIOGRAPHY FROM THE UNHOLY TO CHALLENGE THEIR ASSERTIONS THEY HAVE CONSIDERED YOUR CHAMPION'S OFFERINGS AND FOUND THEM UNCONVINCING.
9. THOU SHALT REMEMBER TO REQUIRE THE UNCLEAN CHAMPION OPPOSING YOUR RIGHTEOUS CAUSE BE BURDNEED BY THE WAYS OF McGRADY AND SUBJECT SUCH CHAMPIONS TO CHALLENGES FOR SUBSTATIVE GROUNDS AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY. FOR IT IS WRITTEN: FAILURE TO CHALLENGE BEFORE OR AT TRIAL WILL WAIVE THE ISSUE ON APPEAL.
10. THOU SHALT KNOW THY DEADLINES, ABIDE BY THEM, AND ENFORCE THEM UPON THE UNHOLY. FOR IT WAS WRITTEN: DILIGENCE IN EXPERT WITNESS PREPARATION CAN MAKE OR BREAK THY CASE.