



RIVERSIDE COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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Course Title: (Lesson Domain #17: Presentation of Evidence)

Hours of Instruction: 2

Course Objectives:

I.

- a) Recognize relevance as it pertains to the admissibility of evidence
- b) Identify four types of evidence:
 1. Testimonial
 2. Real
 3. Demonstrative
 4. Circumstantial
- c) Recognize the process of authentication of evidence
- d) Understand what constitutes the legal chain of custody for evidence

II.

- a) Recognize a peace officer's role and responsibilities in ensuring the admissibility of evidence:
 1. California Evidence Code 352
 2. Exclusionary Rule
 3. Opinion and expert testimony
 4. Privilege
 5. Credibility of witness
- b) Recognize the requirements and exceptions for admitting hearsay evidence for:
 1. Spontaneous statements
 2. Admissions and confessions
 3. Dying declarations

4. Records and officer testimony
5. Hearsay testimony at preliminary hearings
 - a. By active and honorably retired peace officers

III.

- a) Identify a peace officer's responsibilities regarding pretrial preparation
- b) Identify aspects of a case that peace officers should review prior to giving testimony
- c) Identify factors related to a peace officer's personal appearance that can influence how an officer's testimony is received by the court
- d) Identify appropriate peace officer responses while testifying as a witness
- e) Identify appropriate responses when a peace officer is unsure of or does not know the answer to a question asked by an attorney
- f) Identify appropriate responses when asked to give an opinion while testifying
- g) Recognize the importance of being a truthful peace officer while testifying in court