Publisher's Note

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VISUAL EVIDENCE

Elliott Goldstein Release No. 4, December 2024

This manual is both a reference text and practical how -to guide for lawyers, judges, legal academics, law students, law enforcement officers, corporate security, campus security, and loss prevention personnel, alarm and security professionals, security guards, and private investigators. Part I focuses on the admissibility and weight of visual evidence in the courts. Part II examines the specific issues related to the use of visual evidence in civil proceedings. Part III covers the many uses for visual evidence in criminal proceedings, with particular focus on crime scenes, re-enactments and confessions.

WHAT'S NEW IN THIS UPDATE:

This release updates the Issues in Focus tab, the Words and Phrases tab and the Selected Legal Literature tab.

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HIGHLIGHTS

Issues in Focus—The following legal memos have been updated:

- IF 7—When must surveillance evidence be disclosed in labour arbitration?
- IF 11—What is the standard with respect to image quality in the acceptance of visual evidence?
- IF 12—When will video surveillance evidence be allowed for impeachment purposes in a personal injury context?
- IF 13—When will particulars of information related to future surveillance be required to be produced?
- IF 14—What is metadata, and what role can it play in litigation?

Words and Phrases—§ WP:39 Credibility—Ontario—Credibility relates to the honesty of the witness's testimony. Reliability is about the accuracy of their evidence. A person may be credible, but their evidence lack reliability for various reasons, including the conditions under which the witness made the observations or experienced the event. In short, a credible witness may give unreliable evidence.

R. v. FYKE and SMITH 2024 CarswellOnt 132, 2024 ONSC 169.