

# **Table of Contents**

## **CHAPTER 1. MOTION IN LIMINE LAW**

### **I. OVERVIEW**

#### **A. IN LIMINE LAW AND PROCEDURE**

- § 1:1 Description and purpose of motion
- § 1:2 Authority for motion
- § 1:3 Typical use of motion
- § 1:4 —Limitations on use
- § 1:5 —Preservation of objections
- § 1:6 Timing of motion
- § 1:7 Caution regarding local rules

#### **B. DRAFTING SUGGESTIONS**

- § 1:8 Overview
- § 1:9 —File motions supported by facts
- § 1:10 —Be succinct

### **II. SAMPLES**

- § 1:11 Sample in limine brief
- § 1:12 Sample in limine order

## **CHAPTER 2. PREJUDICIAL EVIDENCE**

### **I. MOTION AUTHORITIES**

#### **A. MOTION TO EXCLUDE PREJUDICIAL EVIDENCE, GENERALLY**

- § 2:1 Suggested motion text
- § 2:2 Motion summary
- § 2:3 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence
- § 2:4 —Prejudice defined
- § 2:5 —“Emotional bias”
- § 2:6 Opposing authorities—Generally
- § 2:7 —Broad discretion

#### **B. MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE THAT WILL WASTE COURT’S TIME**

- § 2:8 Suggested motion text

- § 2:9 Motion summary
- § 2:10 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of time-wasting evidence
- § 2:11 Opposing authorities

### C. MOTION TO EXCLUDE CONFUSING OR MISLEADING EVIDENCE

- § 2:12 Suggested motion text
- § 2:13 Motion summary
- § 2:14 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of confusing or misleading evidence
- § 2:15 Opposing authorities

### D. MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE USED TO CREATE AN EMOTIONAL BIAS

- § 2:16 Suggested motion text
- § 2:17 Motion summary
- § 2:18 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 2:19 —Exclusion of evidence intended to inflame jurors' emotions
- § 2:20 — —“Golden rule” argument
- § 2:21 — —Evidence of poverty as motive
- § 2:22 — —Juror's self-interest as taxpayers
- § 2:23 Opposing authorities

### E. MOTION TO EXCLUDE OR LIMIT CUMULATIVE EVIDENCE

- § 2:24 Suggested motion text
- § 2:25 Motion summary
- § 2:26 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of time-wasting evidence
- § 2:27 —Exclusion of cumulative evidence, generally
- § 2:28 — —Articles, letters, and journals
- § 2:29 — —Photographs and videotape evidence
- § 2:30 — —Witness testimony
- § 2:31 —Repetitive testimony
- § 2:32 Opposing authorities—Generally
- § 2:33 —Photographs
- § 2:34 —Number of witnesses
- § 2:35 —Videotape evidence

## II. SAMPLE MOTIONS

- § 2:36 Motion to exclude cumulative evidence

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 2:37 Motion to exclude prejudicial evidence
- § 2:38 Motion to exclude evidence of defendant's poverty
- § 2:39 Motion to exclude evidence that will confuse jury
- § 2:40 Opposition to motion to exclude evidence that will confuse the jury
- § 2:41 Opposition to motion to exclude prejudicial evidence
- § 2:42 Opposition to motion to exclude cumulative witness testimony

## CHAPTER 3. IRRELEVANT EVIDENCE

### I. MOTION AUTHORITIES

#### A. MOTION TO EXCLUDE IRRELEVANT EVIDENCE

- § 3:1 Suggested motion text
- § 3:2 Motion summary
- § 3:3 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 3:4 — —No unlimited inquiry
- § 3:5 — —Prejudicial
- § 3:6 — —Court's discretion
- § 3:7 — —Matters not in dispute
- § 3:8 — —Outside pleadings
- § 3:9 — —Speculative evidence
- § 3:10 — —Too remote
- § 3:11 Opposing authorities

#### B. MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE OF MATTERS NOT IN CONTROVERSY

- § 3:12 Suggested motion text
- § 3:13 Motion summary
- § 3:14 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 3:15 — —Admitted or uncontroverted matters
- § 3:16 — —Collateral issues
- § 3:17 — —Unpleaded issues
- § 3:18 Opposing authorities
- § 3:19 — —Collateral issues
- § 3:20 — —Estoppel: unpleaded issues
- § 3:21 — —Where relevant to other issues

### II. SAMPLE MOTIONS

- § 3:22 Motion to exclude evidence of physical conditions not at issue

- § 3:23 Motion to exclude irrelevant evidence (insurance case)
- § 3:24 Motion to exclude collateral and irrelevant evidence
- § 3:25 Motion to exclude evidence relating to unpleaded issues

## CHAPTER 4. WRITINGS & PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

### I. MOTION AUTHORITIES

#### A. MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE LACKING FOUNDATION

- § 4:1 Suggested motion text
- § 4:2 Motion summary
- § 4:3 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 4:4 —Preliminary facts—Definitions
- § 4:5 — —Determination out of jury presence
- § 4:6 —Inadmissibility of evidence lacking foundation
- § 4:7 —Examples of improper foundation, generally
- § 4:8 — —Photographs, videotapes, and motion pictures
- § 4:9 — —Tests and experiments
- § 4:10 — —Videotapes and motion pictures
- § 4:11 — —Witness testimony—Experts
- § 4:12 — — —Lay
- § 4:13 — —Writings
- § 4:14 — —Medical reports
- § 4:15 — —Objects or things
- § 4:16 Opposing authorities—General
- § 4:17 —Conditional admissibility
- § 4:18 —Outside juror’s presence
- § 4:19 —Weight vs. admissibility

#### B. MOTION TO EXCLUDE WRITINGS, GENERALLY

- § 4:20 Suggested motion text
- § 4:21 Motion summary
- § 4:22 Supporting authorities—“Writing” defined
- § 4:23 — —Inadequate foundation
- § 4:24 —Unauthenticated writings—General authentication requirement
- § 4:25 — —Exclusion of unauthenticated writings
- § 4:26 —Inadmissible hearsay—Generally

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 4:27 — —Examples of inadmissible written hearsay
- § 4:28 —Inadmissible secondary evidence
- § 4:29 Opposing authorities—Authentication and foundation—Examples
- § 4:30 —Hearsay exceptions—Hearsay exceptions, generally
- § 4:31 —Secondary evidence

### C. MOTION TO EXCLUDE GRUESOME OR INFLAMMATORY PHOTOGRAPHS

- § 4:32 Suggested motion text
- § 4:33 Motion summary
- § 4:34 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 4:35 —Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 4:36 —Gruesome or inflammatory photographs
- § 4:37 —Purpose to inflame jurors' emotions
- § 4:38 —Exclusion of photographs, generally
- § 4:39 —Accident scene photographs, generally
- § 4:40 —Other grounds
- § 4:41 Opposing authorities—Photographs, generally
- § 4:42 — —Adequate foundation
- § 4:43 —Enlarged photographs
- § 4:44 —Gruesome photographs
- § 4:45 —X-rays
- § 4:46 —Accident scene photographs

### D. MOTION TO EXCLUDE PREJUDICIAL FILM OR VIDEOTAPES

- § 4:47 Suggested motion text
- § 4:48 Motion summary
- § 4:49 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 4:50 —Exclusion of videotape evidence
- § 4:51 —Other grounds
- § 4:52 Opposing authorities—Generally
- § 4:53 —Relevance
- § 4:54 —Adequate foundation

### E. MOTION TO EXCLUDE PUBLISHED ARTICLES

- § 4:55 Suggested motion text
- § 4:56 Motion summary
- § 4:57 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally

- § 4:58 —Exclusion of published articles—Hearsay
- § 4:59 — —Prejudicial
- § 4:60 —Other grounds
- § 4:61 Opposition authorities—Where relevant to issues
- § 4:62 —Nonhearsay

#### F. MOTION TO EXCLUDE ACCIDENT REPORTS

- § 4:63 Suggested motion text
- § 4:64 Motion summary
- § 4:65 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 4:66 —Exclusion based upon Tenn. Code Ann. § 55-10-114(b)
- § 4:67 —Inadmissible hearsay
- § 4:68 —Statements and opinions in reports
- § 4:69 —Other grounds

#### G. MOTION TO EXCLUDE LETTERS, EMAIL AND TEXT MESSAGES

- § 4:70 Suggested motion text
- § 4:71 Motion summary
- § 4:72 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 4:73 —Exclusion of letters, email, or text messages—Hearsay
- § 4:74 — —Irrelevant
- § 4:75 — —Lack of foundation
- § 4:76 —Other grounds
- § 4:77 Opposing authorities—Generally
- § 4:78 —Exceptions to hearsay rule
- § 4:79 —Relevant
- § 4:80 —Inconsistent statement

#### H. MOTION TO EXCLUDE MAPS, MODELS, CHARTS, EXHIBITS AND DEMONSTRATIVE EVIDENCE

- § 4:81 Suggested motion text
- § 4:82 Motion summary
- § 4:83 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 4:84 —Exclusion of demonstrative evidence, generally
- § 4:85 —Other grounds
- § 4:86 Opposing authorities—Maps, models or charts, generally

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 4:87 —Diagrams and illustrations
- § 4:88 —Exhibits and demonstrative evidence
- § 4:89 —Demonstrations

### I. MOTION TO EXCLUDE IMPROPER MEDICAL RECORDS, REPORTS OR BILLS

- § 4:90 Suggested motion text
- § 4:91 Motion summary
- § 4:92 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial matter, generally
  - § 4:93 —Exclusion of medical records or bills, generally
  - § 4:94 —Improper foundation
  - § 4:95 —Medical opinions—Improper hearsay evidence
  - § 4:96 — —Opinions of others—Lack of personal knowledge
  - § 4:97 —Patient medical history
  - § 4:98 —Other grounds
- § 4:99 Opposition citations—Proper authentication
  - § 4:100 —Patient history, generally
  - § 4:101 — —Pertinent to medical diagnosis
  - § 4:102 — —Business records exception
  - § 4:103 —Medical billing records—Reasonableness of charges

### J. MOTION TO EXCLUDE SOCIAL MEDIA EVIDENCE

- § 4:104 Suggested motion text
- § 4:105 Motion summary
- § 4:106 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
  - § 4:107 —Exclusion of social media evidence—Generally
  - § 4:108 — —Hearsay
  - § 4:109 — —Lack of foundation or authentication
  - § 4:110 —Other grounds
- § 4:111 Opposing authorities—Generally
  - § 4:112 —Nonhearsay
  - § 4:113 —Proper foundation or authentication

## II. SAMPLE MOTIONS

- § 4:114 Motion to exclude gruesome photographs
- § 4:115 Motion to exclude demonstration
- § 4:116 Motion to exclude written letter
- § 4:117 Motion to exclude plaintiff's medical history
- § 4:118 Motion to exclude newspaper article
- § 4:119 Motion to exclude evidence of inflammatory and prejudicial photographs

- § 4:120 Motion to exclude demonstration of defendant’s tattoo
- § 4:121 Motion to exclude social media evidence
- § 4:122 Motion to exclude map
- § 4:123 Motion to exclude unauthenticated video recording
- § 4:124 Motion to exclude accident report
- § 4:125 Motion to exclude text messages
- § 4:126 Opposition to motion to exclude social media evidence
- § 4:127 Opposition to motion to exclude prejudicial  
photographs
- § 4:128 Opposition to motion to exclude text messages

## **CHAPTER 5. TESTS & SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE**

### **I. MOTION AUTHORITIES**

#### **A. MOTION TO EXCLUDE TESTS, EXPERIMENTS, AND RELATED TESTIMONY**

- § 5:1 Suggested motion text
- § 5:2 Motion summary
- § 5:3 Supporting authorities—Expert not qualified to testify  
on subject
- § 5:4 —Not made under “substantially identical” conditions
- § 5:5 —Not reliable
- § 5:6 —Scientific procedures not proper
- § 5:7 —Speculative or conjectural
- § 5:8 —Lack of foundation
- § 5:9 —Other grounds
- § 5:10 Opposing authorities—Generally
- § 5:11 —Identical conditions requirement
- § 5:12 —Weight vs. admissibility
- § 5:13 —Opinion based on legitimate matters

#### **B. MOTION TO EXCLUDE JUNK SCIENCE AND RELATED EVIDENCE**

- § 5:14 Suggested motion text
- § 5:15 Motion summary
- § 5:16 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of new scientific  
evidence—Generally
- § 5:17 —Hedonic damage evidence
- § 5:18 —“Truth-serum” evidence
- § 5:19 —Voice stress analysis
- § 5:20 —Polygraph evidence



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 5:21 — —Refusal or willingness to take polygraph test
- § 5:22 — —Psychological tests, syndromes, and profiles—In general
- § 5:23 — —Rape trauma syndrome
- § 5:24 — —Child sexual abuse syndrome
- § 5:25 — —Gulf war syndrome
- § 5:26 — —Profiles, generally
- § 5:27 — —Hypnosis evidence
- § 5:28 — —Accident reconstruction evidence
- § 5:29 — —Biomechanic evidence
- § 5:30 — —Statistical evidence—Exclusion of confusing evidence, generally
- § 5:31 — —Disapproved statistics evidence, generally
- § 5:32 Opposing authorities—In general
- § 5:33 — —Approved tests
- § 5:34 — —Truth serum
- § 5:35 — —Polygraph evidence, generally
- § 5:36 — —Battered wife syndrome
- § 5:37 — —Hypnosis evidence
- § 5:38 — —Statistics evidence
- § 5:39 — —Accident reconstruction and biomechanic evidence

## II. SAMPLE MOTIONS

- § 5:40 Motion to exclude evidence of statistical analysis
- § 5:41 Motion to exclude evidence of polygraph examination
- § 5:42 Motion to exclude evidence of hypnosis
- § 5:43 Motion to exclude expert testimony
- § 5:44 Motion to exclude expert testimony (credibility of witness)
- § 5:45 Motion to exclude biomechanic evidence

## CHAPTER 6. DISCOVERY MOTIONS

### I. MOTION AUTHORITIES

#### A. MOTION FOR EVIDENTIARY SANCTIONS

- § 6:1 Suggested motion text
- § 6:2 Motion summary
- § 6:3 Supporting authorities—General authority [Tenn. R. Civ. P. 37]—Available sanctions, generally
- § 6:4 — —Evidence sanction
- § 6:5 — —Issue sanction
- § 6:6 — —Terminating sanction
- § 6:7 — —When prior order unnecessary

- § 6:8 —Depositions—Tenn. R. Civ. P. 37
- § 6:9 — —Evidence exclusion
- § 6:10 — —Terminating sanctions
- § 6:11 —Interrogatories—Tenn. R. Civ. P. 37
- § 6:12 — —Evidentiary sanctions
- § 6:13 — —Terminating sanctions
- § 6:14 —Production requests—Tenn. R. Civ. P. 37
- § 6:15 — —Terminating sanctions
- § 6:16 —Mental and physical examinations—Tenn. R. Civ. P.  
35
- § 6:17 — —Sanctions
- § 6:18 —Requests for admission—Tenn. R. Civ. P. 36
- § 6:19 — —Deeming non-responsive matters admitted
- § 6:20 —Failure to disclose identity of witnesses, generally
- § 6:21 —Other grounds
- § 6:22 Opposing authorities—Generally
- § 6:23 — —Reasonable alternative remedy
- § 6:24 —Depositions
- § 6:25 —Interrogatories
- § 6:26 —Requests for production
- § 6:27 —Matters deemed admitted
- § 6:28 —Disclosure of witnesses, generally
- § 6:29 —Mental and physical examinations

#### B. MOTION TO CONCLUSIVELY ESTABLISH ADMITTED MATTERS

- § 6:30 Suggested motion text
- § 6:31 Motion summary
- § 6:32 Supporting authorities—Conclusive establishment of  
admitted matters
- § 6:33 —Purpose of admissions
- § 6:34 Opposing authorities

#### C. MOTIONS RE IMPROPER EXPERT WITNESS EXCHANGE OR EXPERT DEPOSITION

- § 6:35 Suggested motion text
- § 6:36 Motion summary
- § 6:37 Supporting authorities—Expert witness exchange
- § 6:38 —Duty to supplement
- § 6:39 —Exclusion of evidence for improper disclosure
- § 6:40 —Improper supplementation
- § 6:41 Opposing authorities—Expert witness exchanges
- § 6:42 — —Continuance

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

§ 6:43 — —Compare: treating physicians

## II. SAMPLE MOTIONS

- § 6:44 Motion to exclude evidence of claim denied during discovery
- § 6:45 Motion to exclude evidence of medical bills for services obtained after *[date]*
- § 6:46 Motion to exclude testimony of undisclosed witness
- § 6:47 Motion to exclude evidence produced beyond discovery deadline
- § 6:48 Motion to deem matters admitted
- § 6:49 Motion for discovery sanction establishing facts
- § 6:50 Motion to exclude expert testimony relating to matters not disclosed during discovery
- § 6:51 Motion for order rendering default judgment as discovery sanction
- § 6:52 Motion for evidentiary sanctions for failure to serve answers/objections to interrogatories

## CHAPTER 7. CHARACTER EVIDENCE

### I. MOTION AUTHORITIES

#### A. OVERVIEW OF CHARACTER EVIDENCE

- § 7:1 Admissible character evidence
- § 7:2 Character evidence subject to exclusion
- § 7:3 Evidence rule limitations in criminal cases

#### B. MOTION TO EXCLUDE CHARACTER EVIDENCE USED FOR IMPEACHMENT

- § 7:4 Suggested motion text
- § 7:5 Motion summary
- § 7:6 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 7:7 —Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 7:8 —Exclusion of improper impeachment evidence, generally
- § 7:9 — —Alcohol consumption
- § 7:10 — —Witness’s mental health
- § 7:11 — —Arrests, uncharged conduct, or misdemeanor convictions
- § 7:12 — —Drug use
- § 7:13 — —Felony convictions
- § 7:14 — —Good character of witness

- § 7:15 — —Religious belief
- § 7:16 — —Sexual preference or behavior
- § 7:17 — —Collateral issues
- § 7:18 — —Excluding evidence of bias
- § 7:19 — —Not probative of truthfulness
- § 7:20 — —Other grounds
- § 7:21 Opposing authorities—Facts at issue
- § 7:22 — —Witness perceptions
- § 7:23 — —Impeachment, generally
- § 7:24 — —Witness veracity
- § 7:25 — —Witness bias
- § 7:26 — —Collateral matters
- § 7:27 — —Sexual preference or behavior

#### C. MOTION TO EXCLUDE CHARACTER EVIDENCE USED TO PROVE CONDUCT

- § 7:28 Suggested motion text
- § 7:29 Motion summary
- § 7:30 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial  
evidence, generally
- § 7:31 — —Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 7:32 — —Exclusion of improper character evidence
- § 7:33 — —Crimes evidence, generally
- § 7:34 — —Other grounds
- § 7:35 Opposing authorities—Relevant to material issue
- § 7:36 — —Witness impeachment
- § 7:37 — —Trait at issue

#### D. MOTION TO EXCLUDE PRIOR CRIME EVIDENCE

- § 7:38 Suggested motion text
- § 7:39 Motion summary
- § 7:40 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial  
evidence, generally
- § 7:41 — —Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 7:42 — —Exclusion of prior felony or crime involving  
dishonesty
- § 7:43 — —Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally—  
Balancing prejudicial impact of felony conviction  
evidence
- § 7:44 — —Crimes involving dishonesty or false statement
- § 7:45 — —Exclusion of improper character evidence
- § 7:46 — —Exclusion of remote convictions

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 7:47 —Exclusion of prior arrest, misdemeanor conviction, or pending charges
- § 7:48 —Exclusion of uncharged conduct or dismissed charges
- § 7:49 —Exclusion of juvenile adjudications
- § 7:50 —Other grounds
- § 7:51 Opposing authorities—Impeachment expressly allowed regarding felonies
- § 7:52 —Crimes involving dishonesty or false statement
- § 7:53 —Remoteness of conviction
- § 7:54 —Uncharged offenses

## II. SAMPLE MOTIONS

- § 7:55 Motion to Exclude Evidence of Alcoholism of Percipient Witness
- § 7:56 Motion to exclude evidence of prior felony conviction
- § 7:57 Motion to exclude evidence of witness's habit of intemperance
- § 7:58 Motion to exclude improper character evidence (marital infidelity)
- § 7:59 Motion to exclude evidence of religious beliefs
- § 7:60 Motion to exclude improper character evidence (juvenile adjudication)
- § 7:61 Motion to exclude improper character evidence (prescription drug abuse)
- § 7:62 Motion to exclude evidence of prior arrest of witness
- § 7:63 Motion to exclude evidence regarding witness's mental health
- § 7:64 Opposition to motion to exclude inflammatory evidence

## CHAPTER 8. WITNESS EVIDENCE

### I. MOTION AUTHORITIES

#### A. MOTION TO EXCLUDE IMPROPER EXPERT OPINION

- § 8:1 Suggested motion text
- § 8:2 Motion summary
- § 8:3 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of improper opinion, generally
- § 8:4 — —Inadequate foundation
- § 8:5 —Hypothetical questions
- § 8:6 —Inadmissible hearsay, generally
- § 8:7 —Legal questions
- § 8:8 — —Compare: ultimate issues

- § 8:9 —Matters of common experience
- § 8:10 —Not reasonably relied upon by experts
- § 8:11 —Not perceived or personally known
- § 8:12 —Speculation or conjecture
- § 8:13 —Not helpful to trier of fact
- § 8:14 —Usurping jury function/invading province of jury
- § 8:15 —Irrelevant matters
- § 8:16 —Improper profile evidence
- § 8:17 —Cumulative testimony
- § 8:18 —Other grounds
- § 8:19 Opposing authorities—Generally
- § 8:20 —Hearsay
- § 8:21 —Hypothetical questions
- § 8:22 —Legal questions vs. ultimate issues
- § 8:23 —Trustworthy or reliable opinion
- § 8:24 —Cumulative testimony

#### B. MOTION TO EXCLUDE TESTIMONY OF NON-QUALIFIED EXPERT

- § 8:25 Suggested motion text
- § 8:26 Motion summary
- § 8:27 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of non-qualified experts
- § 8:28 —Improper qualifications: examples
- § 8:29 —Other grounds
- § 8:30 Opposing authorities—Generally

#### C. MOTION TO EXCLUDE LAY WITNESS TESTIMONY

- § 8:31 Suggested motion text
- § 8:32 Motion summary
- § 8:33 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of non-expert opinion
- § 8:34 —Lack of personal knowledge
- § 8:35 —Legal opinions
- § 8:36 —Other grounds
- § 8:37 Opposing authorities—Perceptions of witness
- § 8:38 —Helpful to clear understanding
- § 8:39 —Damages or value
- § 8:40 —Medical malpractice cases—“Common knowledge” exception

#### D. MOTION TO EXCLUDE TESTIMONY OF INCOMPETENT WITNESS

- § 8:41 Suggested motion text

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 8:42 Motion summary
- § 8:43 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of incompetent witnesses, generally
- § 8:44 —Lack of personal knowledge of subject matter
- § 8:45 —Other grounds
- § 8:46 Opposing authorities—General—Children
- § 8:47 — —Mental competence/insanity
- § 8:48 —Lack of personal knowledge of subject matter

### E. MOTION TO EXCLUDE TESTIMONY OF JUDGE, ARBITRATOR, MEDIATOR, ATTORNEY, OR JUROR

- § 8:49 Suggested motion text
- § 8:50 Motion summary
- § 8:51 Supporting authorities—Judge as witness
- § 8:52 —Arbitrator, mediator, or neutral as witness
- § 8:53 —Attorney as witness
- § 8:54 —Juror as witness
- § 8:55 Opposing authorities—Judge
- § 8:56 —Arbitrator or mediator
- § 8:57 —Attorney testimony—Generally
- § 8:58 — —Uncontested matter
- § 8:59 — —Value of legal services
- § 8:60 — —Substantial hardship
- § 8:61 — —Testimony of other attorney in firm or office
- § 8:62 —Juror as witness

### F. MOTION TO EXCLUDE WITNESS FROM COURTROOM PRIOR TO TESTIFYING

- § 8:63 Suggested motion text
- § 8:64 Motion summary
- § 8:65 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of non-party witnesses from courtroom
- § 8:66 Opposing authorities—Generally
- § 8:67 —Discretion
- § 8:68 —Cannot exclude party
- § 8:69 —Person essential to presentation of cause
- § 8:70 —When exclusion of testimony improper
- § 8:71 —Purpose of rule

### G. MOTION TO EXCLUDE COMMENT ON EXERCISE OF PRIVILEGE (NOT TO TESTIFY)

- § 8:72 Suggested motion text

- § 8:73 Motion summary
- § 8:74 Supporting authorities—Improper comments
- § 8:75 Opposing authorities—Allowable inferences
- § 8:76 —Civil consequences of silence
- § 8:77 —Waiver

## H. MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE OF NON-CALLED WITNESSES

- § 8:78 Suggested motion text
- § 8:79 Motion summary
- § 8:80 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 8:81 —Comment or instruction improper, generally
- § 8:82 —Where witness was equally available to testify
- § 8:83 —Where other adequate testimony
- § 8:84 —Other grounds
- § 8:85 Opposition citations—Generally
- § 8:86 —Non-calling of material witness

## I. MOTION TO EXCLUDE HEARSAY EVIDENCE

- § 8:87 Suggested motion text
- § 8:88 Motion summary
- § 8:89 Supporting authorities—General authority for exclusion
- § 8:90 —Purpose of rule
- § 8:91 —Written hearsay, generally
- § 8:92 —Multiple hearsay
- § 8:93 Opposing authorities—Hearsay exceptions, generally
- § 8:94 —Non-hearsay evidence
- § 8:95 —Non-assertive conduct
- § 8:96 —Multiple hearsay

## II. SAMPLE MOTIONS

- § 8:97 Motion to exclude speculative expert opinion
- § 8:98 Motion to exclude reference to non-called witnesses
- § 8:99 Motion to exclude evidence of computerized valuations of plaintiff's business, or, in the alternative, motion for a *Daubert/McDaniel* hearing regarding the validity of the methodology
- § 8:100 Motion to exclude testimony and opinions of medical doctor
- § 8:101 Motion to exclude lay witness testimony (causation)
- § 8:102 Motion to exclude witness from courtroom prior to testifying



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 8:103 Motion to exclude testimony of witness for lack of personal knowledge of subject matter
- § 8:104 Motion to exclude testimony of mediator
- § 8:105 Motion to exclude testimony of incompetent witness
- § 8:106 Opposition to motion to exclude lay witness evidence
- § 8:107 Opposition to motion to exclude expert witness testimony (non-qualified)

## CHAPTER 9. TRIAL PRESENTATION

### I. MOTION AUTHORITIES

#### A. MOTION TO PREVENT IMPROPER VOIR DIRE

- § 9:1 Suggested motion text
- § 9:2 Motion summary
- § 9:3 Supporting authorities—Improper voir dire
- § 9:4 —Preconditioning
- § 9:5 —Other grounds
- § 9:6 Opposing authorities—Generally
- § 9:7 —Reference to insurance

#### B. MOTION TO EXCLUDE IMPROPER ARGUMENT IN OPENING STATEMENT

- § 9:8 Suggested motion text
- § 9:9 Motion summary
- § 9:10 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 9:11 —Exclusion of prejudicial matter in opening statement
- § 9:12 —Other grounds
- § 9:13 Opposing authorities

#### C. MOTION TO BAR PREMATURE REBUTTAL TO AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

- § 9:14 Suggested motion text
- § 9:15 Motion summary
- § 9:16 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 9:17 —Order of proof
- § 9:18 —Other grounds
- § 9:19 Opposing authorities

#### D. MOTION TO EXCLUDE REFERENCE TO LOST OR DESTROYED EVIDENCE

- § 9:20 Suggested motion text

- § 9:21 Motion summary
- § 9:22 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 9:23 —Exclusion of lost or destroyed evidence
- § 9:24 —Other grounds
- § 9:25 Opposition citations—Generally

**E. MOTION TO EXCLUDE ARBITRATION OR  
MEDIATION EVIDENCE AND FINDINGS**

- § 9:26 Suggested motion text
- § 9:27 Motion summary
- § 9:28 Supporting authorities—Limitation on arbitration evidence
- § 9:29 —Other grounds
- § 9:30 Opposing authorities

**F. MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE OF  
DAMAGES IN BIFURCATED TRIAL**

- § 9:31 Suggested motion text
- § 9:32 Motion summary
- § 9:33 Supporting authorities—Statutory authority
- § 9:34 —Other grounds
- § 9:35 Opposing authorities—Liability issues relevant to damages
- § 9:36 —Small overlap approved

**G. MOTION TO PRECLUDE “GOLDEN RULE  
ARGUMENT”**

- § 9:37 Suggested motion text
- § 9:38 Motion summary
- § 9:39 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 9:40 —Rejection of “golden rule argument”
- § 9:41 —Other grounds
- § 9:42 Opposing authorities

**H. MOTION TO EXCLUDE IMPROPER  
TERMINOLOGY**

- § 9:43 Suggested motion text
- § 9:44 Motion summary
- § 9:45 Supporting authorities—Confusing evidence
- § 9:46 —Terms containing legal conclusions

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 9:47 —Testimony on ultimate issues—Exclusion of ultimate issue evidence
- § 9:48 — —General admissibility of ultimate issue opinions
- § 9:49 —Preconditioning jury
- § 9:50 —Usurping jury function
- § 9:51 Opposing authorities—Legal Questions vs. Ultimate Issues

## II. SAMPLE MOTIONS

- § 9:52 Motion to exclude reference to lost or destroyed evidence
- § 9:53 Motion to exclude mediation evidence
- § 9:54 Motion to preclude golden rule argument
- § 9:55 Motion to exclude evidence of damages in bifurcated trial
- § 9:56 Motion to prevent improper voir dire (preconditioning)
- § 9:57 Motion to exclude improper argument during opening statement
- § 9:58 Motion to bar premature rebuttal to affirmative defense:
- § 9:59 Opposition to motion for missing evidence instruction

## CHAPTER 10. PERSONAL INJURY MOTIONS

### I. MOTION AUTHORITIES

#### A. MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE OF COLLATERAL SOURCE PAYMENTS

- § 10:1 Suggested motion text
- § 10:2 Motion summary
- § 10:3 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 10:4 —Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 10:5 —Exclusion of collateral source evidence, generally
- § 10:6 — —Discounted medical rates
- § 10:7 — —Gratuitous payments
- § 10:8 — —Workers compensation benefits
- § 10:9 — —Wage payments
- § 10:10 — —Exceptions to medical malpractice statute
- § 10:11 —Other grounds
- § 10:12 Opposing authorities—Opposing authorities, generally—Exception: medical malpractice cases
- § 10:13 — —Exception: workers' compensation cases

## B. MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

- § 10:14 Suggested motion text
- § 10:15 Motion summary
- § 10:16 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 10:17 —Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 10:18 —Exclusion of liability insurance evidence
- § 10:19 — —Evidence of defendant’s lack of insurance
- § 10:20 —Other grounds
- § 10:21 Opposing authorities—Generally

## C. MOTION TO EXCLUDE SETTLEMENT EVIDENCE

- § 10:22 Suggested motion text
- § 10:23 Motion summary
- § 10:24 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 10:25 —Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 10:26 —Exclusion of settlement evidence used to show liability
- § 10:27 —Other grounds
- § 10:28 Opposing authorities—Generally
- § 10:29 —Purpose other than to show liability

## D. MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE OF OTHER ACCIDENTS, CLAIMS, OR LAWSUITS

- § 10:30 Suggested motion text
- § 10:31 Motion summary
- § 10:32 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial evidence, generally
- § 10:33 —Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 10:34 —Exclusion of prior-accident evidence
- § 10:35 —Exclusion of subsequent accident evidence
- § 10:36 —Other claims or lawsuits
- § 10:37 —Other grounds
- § 10:38 Opposing authorities—Evidence of other accidents or incidents—Generally
- § 10:39 — —Similarity: dangerous condition/defective products
- § 10:40 — —Relevant to issues in case (e.g., similar injuries)
- § 10:41 —Admissibility of other claims—Generally
- § 10:42 — —Proof of punitive damages

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### E. MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE OF SUBSEQUENT REPAIRS

- § 10:43 Suggested motion text
- § 10:44 Motion summary
- § 10:45 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial  
evidence, generally
- § 10:46 —Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 10:47 —Exclusion of subsequent repair evidence
- § 10:48 —Other grounds
- § 10:49 Opposing authorities—Generally
- § 10:50 —Offered for another purpose/relevant to issues

### F. MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE OF STATUTE VIOLATION

- § 10:51 Suggested motion text
- § 10:52 Motion summary
- § 10:53 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial  
evidence, generally
- § 10:54 —Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 10:55 —Exclusion of traffic citation evidence, generally
- § 10:56 —Not proximate cause
- § 10:57 —Party not within protected class
- § 10:58 —Not type of injury statute meant to prevent
- § 10:59 —Other grounds
- § 10:60 Opposing authorities—Proximate cause of injury
- § 10:61 —Injured party within protected class

### G. MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE THAT DRIVER WAS UNLICENSED

- § 10:62 Suggested motion text
- § 10:63 Motion summary
- § 10:64 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of evidence of  
absence of license
- § 10:65 —Other grounds
- § 10:66 Opposing authorities—Relevant to issues

### H. MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE OF FAILURE TO WEAR SEAT BELT

- § 10:67 Suggested motion text
- § 10:68 Motion summary
- § 10:69 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial  
evidence, generally

- § 10:70 —Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 10:71 —Exclusion of seat belt evidence
- § 10:72 — —Child restraint systems
- § 10:73 —Other grounds
- § 10:74 Opposing authorities—Non-use of seat belts  
admissible in certain cases
- § 10:75 — —Non-use of child restraint systems

#### I. MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE OF ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

- § 10:76 Suggested motion text
- § 10:77 Motion summary
- § 10:78 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial  
evidence, generally
- § 10:79 —Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 10:80 —Exclusion of alcohol evidence, generally
- § 10:81 —Blood alcohol level and blood tests, generally
- § 10:82 —Other grounds
- § 10:83 Opposing authorities—Where relevant to issues
- § 10:84 —Admissible evidence of drinking habit
- § 10:85 —Admissible evidence of blood alcohol tests and blood  
tests

#### J. MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE OF PRIOR D.U.I.

- § 10:86 Suggested motion text
- § 10:87 Motion summary
- § 10:88 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial  
evidence, generally
- § 10:89 —Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 10:90 —Exclusion of crimes evidence used for  
impeachment—Generally
- § 10:91 — —Exclusion of arrests, uncharged conduct, and  
misdemeanor convictions
- § 10:92 — —Exclusion of felony convictions where probative  
value outweighed by risk of unfair prejudice
- § 10:93 —Exclusion of D.U.I. evidence where used to prove  
improper conduct
- § 10:94 —Other grounds
- § 10:95 Opposing authorities—Generally
- § 10:96 —Impeachment
- § 10:97 Use of felony convictions or convictions involving  
dishonesty or false statement for impeachment  
expressly allowed

TABLE OF CONTENTS

§ 10:98 Opposing authorities—Relevant to issues

**K. MOTION TO EXCLUDE ACCIDENT  
RECONSTRUCTION AND BIOMECHANIC  
EVIDENCE**

§ 10:99 Suggested motion text

§ 10:100 Motion summary

§ 10:101 Supporting authorities—Excluding accident  
reconstruction evidence—Generally

§ 10:102 — —Reliance on observations of others (hearsay)

§ 10:103 — —Improper foundation or qualification

§ 10:104 — —Point of impact determinations

§ 10:105 — —Reaction time determinations

§ 10:106 — —Vehicle speed determinations

§ 10:107 — —Excluding biomechanic evidence

§ 10:108 — —Anthropomorphic dummies

§ 10:109 — —“Finite element analysis” tests

§ 10:110 — —Low-speed impact automobile cases

§ 10:111 — —Excluding “Delta V” testimony

§ 10:112 — —Challenging “popping into a chair” testimony

§ 10:113 — —“Human crash test dummy” testimony

§ 10:114 — —Photographs depicting “no damage” to vehicles

§ 10:115 — —Other unreliable tests

§ 10:116 Opposition—Tests and scientific testimony, generally

§ 10:117 — —Accident reconstruction evidence—Proper basis for  
opinion

§ 10:118 — —Vehicle speed

§ 10:119 — —Reaction time

§ 10:120 — —Point of impact

§ 10:121 — —Photographs depicting “no damage” to vehicles

§ 10:122 — —Biomechanic evidence—Cases where admitted

§ 10:123 — —A note on opposing motions to exclude low-impact  
tests

**L. MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE OF PARTY’S  
FINANCIAL STATUS**

§ 10:124 Suggested motion text

§ 10:125 Motion summary

§ 10:126 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial  
evidence, generally

§ 10:127 — —Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally

§ 10:128 — —Exclusion of financial status evidence, generally—  
Plaintiff’s financial status

§ 10:129 — —Defendant’s financial status

- § 10:130 —Punitive damages cases
- § 10:131 —Other grounds
- § 10:132 Opposing authorities—Relevant to issues—  
Generally
- § 10:133 — —Punitive damages cases

#### M. MOTION TO EXCLUDE TAX EVIDENCE

- § 10:134 Suggested motion text
- § 10:135 Motion summary
- § 10:136 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial  
evidence, generally
- § 10:137 —Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 10:138 —Exclusion of tax evidence—Generally
- § 10:139 — —Tax implications on damages
- § 10:140 —Improper appeal to jurors as taxpayers
- § 10:141 —Other grounds
- § 10:142 Opposing authorities—Generally

#### N. MOTION TO EXCLUDE LIABILITY OR FAULT EVIDENCE

- § 10:143 Suggested motion text
- § 10:144 Motion summary
- § 10:145 Supporting authorities—Exclusion of prejudicial  
evidence, generally
- § 10:146 —Exclusion of irrelevant evidence, generally
- § 10:147 —Admitted matters, generally
- § 10:148 —Admission of fault—Admissions made during  
settlement negotiations
- § 10:149 — —Inadmissible legal opinions by lay witnesses
- § 10:150 — —Sympathy or benevolence
- § 10:151 —Other grounds
- § 10:152 Opposing authorities—Relevance
- § 10:153 —Admission of fault

#### O. MOTION TO EXCLUDE IMPROPER DAMAGE EVIDENCE

- § 10:154 Suggested motion text
- § 10:155 Motion summary
- § 10:156 Supporting authorities—Unpleaded, undisputed or  
surprise claims—Unpleaded matters
- § 10:157 — —Undisputed matters
- § 10:158 — —Surprise claims
- § 10:159 —Speculative damages, generally



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 10:160 —Lost profits
- § 10:161 —Punitive damages
- § 10:162 Opposing authorities—Unpleaded or denied claims
- § 10:163 —Speculative damages
- § 10:164 —Lost profits
- § 10:165 —Punitive damages

## II. SAMPLE MOTIONS

- § 10:166 Motion to exclude evidence of collateral source payments
- § 10:167 Motion to exclude evidence of defendant's liability
- § 10:168 Motion to admit evidence of laboratory testing regarding firearm residue
- § 10:169 Motion to exclude surveillance video
- § 10:170 Motion to exclude evidence of subsequent remedial measures
- § 10:171 Motion to exclude evidence of statute violation
- § 10:172 Motion to exclude evidence of failure to file income tax returns
- § 10:173 Motion to exclude settlement evidence
- § 10:174 Motion to exclude liability insurance evidence
- § 10:175 Motion to exclude evidence of plaintiff's financial status
- § 10:176 Motion to exclude evidence of defendant's prior DUI
- § 10:177 Motion to exclude evidence of prior traffic citations
- § 10:178 Motion to exclude improper damage evidence (speculative evidence of lost profits)
- § 10:179 Motion to exclude evidence regarding prior accident
- § 10:180 Motion to exclude evidence regarding party's prior injuries
- § 10:181 Opposition to motion to exclude evidence of subsequent repairs
- § 10:182 Opposition to motion to exclude evidence of defendant's financial status

### Table of Laws and Rules

### Table of Cases

### Index