Table of Contents

Volume 1

CHAPTER 1. THE IMPORTANCE OF LAW FIRM MARKETING

§ 1:1 Introduction
§ 1:2 The importance of building a brand
§ 1:3 The most important brand asset: your website
§ 1:4 Understanding internet marketing
§ 1:5 Understanding share of search
§ 1:6 Paid search/SEM
§ 1:7 Understanding organic SEO
§ 1:8 Drawing the line between visibility and user experience
§ 1:9 How to rank well in Google's organic search results
§ 1:10 Understanding local SEO
§ 1:11 How to rank well in Google's local search results
§ 1:12 Email marketing
§ 1:13 Video marketing
§ 1:14 Social media

CHAPTER 2. EVALUATING THE VIABILITY OF THE CASE

I. IN GENERAL

§ 2:1 Introduction
§ 2:2 Intake criteria
§ 2:3 Initial client meeting
§ 2:4 Preliminary insurance matters—Identification of applicable insurance
§ 2:5 —The insurance interaction reality
§ 2:6 —Initial contacts
§ 2:7 Identifying actors and financial responsibility
§ 2:8 Evaluating the viability of the case

II. FORMS

§ 2:9 Sample intake form
§ 2:10 Retainer agreement
§ 2:11 Initial client letter

§ 2:12 Detailed insurance discovery request
§ 2:13 Initial letter to first party carrier (PIP/MedPay)
§ 2:14 Initial letter to first party carrier (UM/UIM)
§ 2:15 Initial letter to third party carrier (BI)
§ 2:16 Actor/financial responsibility list

CHAPTER 3. INVESTIGATING THE CLAIM

I. IN GENERAL

§ 3:1 Introduction
§ 3:2 Multidisciplinary/major accident investigation team (MAIT) reports
§ 3:3 Forensic assistance
§ 3:4 Event data recorders
§ 3:5 Historical and technical background of EDRs
§ 3:6 Protocol for recovering information from EDRs

II. FORMS

§ 3:7 MAID initial investigation checklist

CHAPTER 4. CELL PHONE, SMARTPHONE, AND GPS DISCOVERY IN THE COMPUTER AGE

§ 4:1 Introduction and statistics
§ 4:2 Distracted driving
§ 4:3 Discovery of cell phone and GPS records is a requirement, particularly in the context of auto negligence
§ 4:4 Cell phone providers will comply with a third-party subpoena for cell phone records
§ 4:5 Discovery of GPS data
§ 4:6 Conclusion and practice tips
§ 4:7 Retention periods of major cellular service providers
§ 4:8 Cell phone and texting laws
§ 4:9 Subpoena duces tecum for deposition for cell phone records
§ 4:10 Cell phone discovery to be propounded in all auto negligence cases
§ 4:11 Decisions on the impact of cell phone use on first-party negligence and liability
§ 4:12 Decisions on the impact of cell phone use on third-party negligence and liability
§ 4:13 Decisions on the impact of cell phone use on punitive damages

§ 4:14 Decisions on the impact of pedestrian cell phone use on comparative negligence
§ 4:15 Complaint by driver of rear-ended motor vehicle alleging gross negligence for cell phone use while driving; compensatory and punitive damages
§ 4:16 Complaint by passenger of struck motor vehicle alleging gross negligence for driver texting/cell phone use; compensatory and punitive damages
§ 4:17 Complaint by struck motor vehicle alleging gross negligence against truck driver/trucking firm for cell phone use; compensatory and punitive damages
§ 4:18 Complaint by struck motor vehicle alleging gross negligence for sales rep driver Blackberry/cell phone use; employer liability based on agency/respondeat superior; compensatory and punitive damages

CHAPTER 5. MARSHALLING EVIDENCE

I. IN GENERAL

§ 5:1 Introduction

II. LIABILITY

§ 5:2 Preserving evidence
§ 5:3 Spoliation
§ 5:4 Investigate coverages and assets for liable parties
§ 5:5 Interviewing witnesses
§ 5:6 Identifying liability experts

III. DAMAGES

§ 5:7 Generally
§ 5:8 Preserving before injury
§ 5:9 After injury
§ 5:10 Identifying lay witnesses
§ 5:11 Identifying medical witnesses
§ 5:12 Identifying damage experts
§ 5:13 The demand letter

IV. FORMS

§ 5:14 MAID initial physical evidence checklist
§ 5:15 Witness statement sample 1
§ 5:16 Witness statement sample 2
§ 5:17 Eyewitness interview checklist
§ 5:18 Liability expert retention checklist

§ 5:19 Damages checklist—Preinjury
§ 5:20 —Post injury
§ 5:21 —Lay witnesses
§ 5:22 —Medical witnesses
§ 5:23 Sample medical doctor declaration re grief
§ 5:24 Damage experts retention list

CHAPTER 6. COMMENCING LITIGATION

I. IN GENERAL

§ 6:1 Introduction
§ 6:2 Litigation strategy—Rules of the Road® tools for motor vehicle collision cases
§ 6:3 Filing the lawsuit
§ 6:4 "Sue us" UIM policies
§ 6:5 Appointing the personal representative and guardian ad litem
§ 6:6 Service of process
§ 6:7 —Notify the insurance company
§ 6:8 —Serve according to statute
§ 6:9 —Confront the problem of statute of limitations and missing defendants

II. FORMS

§ 6:10 Standard tort claim form
§ 6:11 Vehicle accident tort claim form
§ 6:12 Instructions for completing standard tort claim form
§ 6:13 Complaint 1
§ 6:14 Complaint 2
§ 6:15 Complaint 3
§ 6:16 Complaint—Motor vehicle crash; single vehicle alcohol
§ 6:17 —Crashworthiness; inadequate design passenger compartment
§ 6:18 —Crashworthiness; inadequate/defective design of seatbelt system and tires
§ 6:19 —Crashworthiness; inadequate/defective design of stability control, airbag and seatbelt systems and sideglass breakage
§ 6:20 —Crashworthiness; inadequate/defective design of seatbelt and door latch systems
§ 6:21 —Crashworthiness; inadequate/defective design seatback failure in low impact rear collision
§ 6:22 —Crashworthiness; inadequate/defective design causing roof crush, window failure and inertial/inadvertent seatbelt unlatching

§ 6:23 Wrongful death complaint
§ 6:24 Trucking complaint
§ 6:25 Bus complaint
§ 6:26 —Motor coach designed to carry passengers in interstate travel
§ 6:27 —Wrongful death, products liability and negligence action against bus line—Defective design/ manufacture/maintenance of bathroom window
§ 6:28 —Negligence, products liability, wrongful death against driver, motor coach company and tire manufacturer
§ 6:29 Declaratory judgment complaint—Wrongful death action
§ 6:30 Sample "Sue Us" clause complaint
§ 6:31 Complaint—Sudden or unintended acceleration
§ 6:32 —Motorcycle collision with truck; employee and employer defendants
§ 6:33 —Motorcycle defect—Stuck throttle
§ 6:34 — —Braking system
§ 6:35 — —Aftermarket parts
§ 6:36 — —Custom bike (general)
§ 6:37 — —Custom bike (air shock valve)
§ 6:38 — —Helmet design (general)
§ 6:39 — —Helmet (geometric design of retention system)
§ 6:40 —Highway design liability—Defective guardrail design, failure to warn; Pike v. Trinity Industries, Inc. & Trinity Highway Products
§ 6:41 Opposition to motion for bifurcation
§ 6:42 Petition for appointment of a personal representative
§ 6:43 Declaration
§ 6:44 Oath
§ 6:45 Order
§ 6:46 Petition for appointment of guardian ad litem
§ 6:47 Order appointing GAL
§ 6:48 Service of process on city
§ 6:49 Acceptance of service
§ 6:50 Confirmation of service
§ 6:51 Sample service of process status log
§ 6:52 Motion to allow CR 30(b)(6) of insurance company
§ 6:53 Deposition notice pursuant to CR 30(b)(6)
§ 6:54 Requests for admission—Identification and location of defendant
§ 6:55 Sample motion to allow service by other means

CHAPTER 7. WRITTEN DISCOVERY

I. IN GENERAL

§ 7:1 Introduction
§ 7:2 Propounding interrogatories and requests for production
§ 7:3 Ensuring that discovery is timely answered
§ 7:4 Follow up discovery requests
§ 7:5 Propounding requests for admissions, generally
§ 7:6 —Addressing jurisdictional matters of concern
§ 7:7 —Liability
§ 7:8 —Damages
§ 7:9 —Insurance coverage
§ 7:10 Answering discovery
§ 7:11 Social media and discovery—Best practices

II. FORMS

§ 7:12 First interrogatories and requests for production
§ 7:13 Plaintiff's first interrogatories and requests for production—Highway design
§ 7:14 —Auto crashworthiness
§ 7:15 Plaintiff's first interrogatories and requests for production to defendant municipality—Short form sample mandated by court rules
§ 7:16 Plaintiff's first interrogatories and requests for production to city employee—Short form
§ 7:17 Plaintiff's second interrogatories and requests for production to defendant
§ 7:18 Sample admissions re liability and general matters
§ 7:19 Admissions with specific facts
§ 7:20 First interrogatories to trucking company
§ 7:21 First interrogatories to truck driver
§ 7:22 Second interrogatories and request for production—Trucking company and truck driver
§ 7:23 AI-powered discovery and evidence management in the MAID case

CHAPTER 8. DEPOSITIONS

I. IN GENERAL

§ 8:1 Conducting depositions—Legal standards
§ 8:2 Deposition outlines
§ 8:3 Entity depositions

§ 8:4 Preparing plaintiff and witnesses
§ 8:5 Conducting expert depositions
§ 8:6 Remote depositions—Introduction
§ 8:7 —Technology basics
§ 8:8 —Instructions for court reporter
§ 8:9 —Best practices checklist
§ 8:10 —Sharing and using exhibits
§ 8:11 —Research deposition rules and procedure for your jurisdiction
§ 8:12 —Sample deposition notice for Zoom

II. FORMS

§ 8:13 Deposition outline of defendant
§ 8:14 Deposition outline of truck driver
§ 8:15 Deposition outline of miscellaneous expert
§ 8:16 CR 30(b)(6) addendum
§ 8:17 Deposition outline to prepare plaintiff and lay witnesses
§ 8:18 AI as a deposition tool

CHAPTER 9. MEDICAL WITNESSES

I. IN GENERAL

§ 9:1 Standard of proof
§ 9:2 Establishing the medical case—Procuring records
§ 9:3 —Summarizing records
§ 9:4 Meeting with doctors
§ 9:5 Perpetuating the treating doctor's testimony by videotape, generally
§ 9:6 —Deposition with slides
§ 9:7 —Using slides to demonstrate surgery
§ 9:8 —Editing the video
§ 9:9 Dealing with defense examiners

II. FORMS

§ 9:10 Letter to defense re medical stipulation
§ 9:11 HIPAA release form—Plaintiff lawyer
§ 9:12 HIPPAA release—Opposing counsel
§ 9:13 Sample list of injuries and conditions
§ 9:14 Outline for direct examination of treating health care provider (mix and match order)

CHAPTER 10. EXPERTS

I. IN GENERAL

§ 10:1 Selection and task assignment
§ 10:2 Providing foundational data
§ 10:3 Ensuring admissibility of the opinion
§ 10:4 Developing expert testimony in cases involving vocational rehabilitation and care planning issues
§ 10:5 An update of vocational and care planning court cases

II. FORMS

§ 10:6 Sample letter of retention
§ 10:7 Sample letter of transmission
§ 10:8 Economic appraisal of injured person
§ 10:9 Economic appraisal of deceased
§ 10:10 Sample economic analysis report
§ 10:11 Sample life care planning report
§ 10:12 Sample biomechanical report regarding inter alia inertial/inadvertent seatbelt unlatching and roof crush
§ 10:13 Sample biomechanical engineer report #2 regarding inter alia inertial/inadvertent seatbelt unlatching
§ 10:14 Sample highway safety engineer affidavit
§ 10:15 Sample highway safety engineer report

CHAPTER 11. PRETRIAL MOTION PRACTICE

I. IN GENERAL

§ 11:1 Controlling the tenor
§ 11:2 Developing a general database
§ 11:3 Using motion practice to frame the case

II. PARTICULAR MOTIONS

§ 11:4 Motion for default
§ 11:5 Amendment of complaint
§ 11:6 Compelling discovery
§ 11:7 Quashing discovery
§ 11:8 Summary judgment
§ 11:9 Motion to strike
§ 11:10 Opposition to summary judgment - generally

III. FORMS

§ 11:11 Motion for default

§ 11:12 Motion for leave to amend complaint
§ 11:13 Motion to compel discovery
§ 11:14 Motion to compel defendants to produce documents—Inadequate highway design
§ 11:15 Declaration of engineer supporting motion to compel discovery—Inadequate highway design
§ 11:16 Reply supporting motion to compel discovery—Inadequate highway design
§ 11:17 Order granting motion to compel discovery and award of terms—Inadequate highway design
§ 11:18 Motion to compel discovery—Crashworthiness; inadequate design passenger compartment
§ 11:19 Motion for protective order barring FRCP 30(b)(6) deposition
§ 11:20 Motion to quash supoena to personal injury protection/medical pay insurer
§ 11:21 Motion for summary judgment re liability—Rear end crash
§ 11:22 Motion for summary judgment liability—Intersection crash
§ 11:23 Argument—Summary judgment—Intersection case
§ 11:24 Motion for summary judgment—Reasonable and necessary medical expenses
§ 11:25 —Failure to mitigate damages
§ 11:26 Sample declaration of health care provider
§ 11:27 Motion to strike designation late expert
§ 11:28 Motion to strike expert—Human factors
§ 11:29 Motion to strike—Accident reconstruction expert
§ 11:30 Opposition to CR 35 exam

CHAPTER 12. OBJECTIVE EYES: TRIAL CONSULTANTS, FOCUS GROUPS, JUROR INTERVIEWS

I. IN GENERAL

§ 12:1 Introduction
§ 12:2 Intimacy breeds subjectivity
§ 12:3 What you know can *really* hurt you
§ 12:4 Jurors: the bottomless chasm
§ 12:5 Two tools
§ 12:6 Focus groups (mock trials)
§ 12:7 Different types of focus groups in motor vehicle collision cases
§ 12:8 —Discovery focus groups (They want to know what?)

§ 12:9 —Who to name as parties
§ 12:10 —Role playing
§ 12:11 —Metaphorically speaking
§ 12:12 —Make your case sticky
§ 12:13 —Cure the curse
§ 12:14 —Practice makes perfect
§ 12:15 —Facts that matter, and those that don't, really
§ 12:16 —Find the blind spots
§ 12:17 Juror interviews
§ 12:18 Case analysis
§ 12:19 Trial strategy
§ 12:20 Jury selection
§ 12:21 Opening
§ 12:22 Witnesses
§ 12:23 Closing
§ 12:24 Post-trial interviews, generally
§ 12:25 —The post-trial interview: how to talk to jurors (and what to say)
§ 12:26 —The interview

II. FORMS

§ 12:27 Sample question sequence—Post-trial juror interview
§ 12:28 Sample focus group questionnaires

CHAPTER 13. ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

I. IN GENERAL

§ 13:1 Introduction
§ 13:2 Settlement demands

II. SETTLEMENT FILMS

§ 13:3 Introduction
§ 13:4 Identifying case theme
§ 13:5 Creating a script
§ 13:6 Compiling
§ 13:7 Filming
§ 13:8 Editing
§ 13:9 Vetting
§ 13:10 Re-editing

III. MEDIATION

§ 13:11 From the mediator's viewpoint

§ 13:12 Binding arbitration

IV. FORMS

§ 13:13 Sample settlement demand
§ 13:14 Sample settlement demand checklist
§ 13:15 Settlement demand explanation letter to client
§ 13:16 Film production flow chart
§ 13:17 Focus group review of film
§ 13:18 Sample prehearing statement of proof

CHAPTER 14. 90 DAYS BEFORE TRIAL

I. IN GENERAL

§ 14:1 Introduction
§ 14:2 Developing a theme
§ 14:3 —Liability theme
§ 14:4 —Damages theme
§ 14:5 Demonstrative aids
§ 14:6 Organizing evidence

II. FORMS

§ 14:7 Theme development work sheet
§ 14:8 Demonstrative aid checklist
§ 14:9 90 days before trial evidence checklist

CHAPTER 15. 30 DAYS BEFORE TRIAL

I. THE TRIAL NOTEBOOK

§ 15:1 Structure of the trial notebook
§ 15:2 Form—Trial notebook divider format
§ 15:3 —Sample plaintiff witness chart
§ 15:4 —Plaintiff witness chart—Blank
§ 15:5 —Trial flow chart
§ 15:6 —Sample trial flow chart blank
§ 15:7 —Sample evidence chart
§ 15:8 — —Blank
§ 15:9 —Sample voir dire chart
§ 15:10 — —Blank

II. PREPARING WITNESSES

§ 15:11 In general

§ 15:12 The Oprah way
§ 15:13 Preparation by videotape
§ 15:14 Form—Work product evaluation form
§ 15:15 How to prepare the fragile client—Introduction
§ 15:16 —What/who is a fragile client?
§ 15:17 —Setting expectations
§ 15:18 —Diffusing the "Law and Order" syndrome
§ 15:19 —Trial preparation
§ 15:20 —Identifying the X-Factor
§ 15:21 —Be human
§ 15:22 —Steer the ship
§ 15:23 —Conclusions

III. SHADOW JURORS

§ 15:24 In general
§ 15:25 Form—Shadow jury confidentiality agreement
§ 15:26 —House rules
§ 15:27 —Evaluation form—Opening
§ 15:28 —Witness evaluation form

CHAPTER 16. VISUALS AND GRAPHICS IN THE COURTROOM

I. USING GRAPHICS TO PERSUADE: THREE STEPS TO CLARITY AND FOCUS

§ 16:1 Introduction
§ 16:2 Step one: Align your information with the way the mind works
§ 16:3 Step two: Create a storyboard
§ 16:4 Step three: Highlight the frames of the storyboard according to levels of importance
§ 16:5 Conclusion

II. PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF GRAPHICS IN THE COURTROOM

§ 16:6 Modern courtroom presentation options
§ 16:7 Practice makes perfect and a little help wouldn't hurt
§ 16:8 Mastering PowerPoint
§ 16:9 Illustrative aid or visual evidence

CHAPTER 17. TRIAL BRIEF

§ 17:1 Introduction

§ 17:2 Form—Sample trial brief
§ 17:3 Forms—Sample Trial Brief PowerPoint
§ 17:4 Plaintiff's trial brief for case involving defective airbag deployment—Crashworthiness; inadequate design, warning and construction
§ 17:5 Defendants' trial brief for case involving defective airbag deployment—Crashworthiness; inadequate design, warning and construction

Volume 2

CHAPTER 18. MOTION IN LIMINE

§ 18:1 In General
§ 18:2 Form—Motion in limine worksheet
§ 18:3 —Sample motion in limine
§ 18:4 —Sample order on plaintiff's motion in limine
§ 18:5 Frye hearing transcript to determine motion to strike
§ 18:6 Plaintiff Holt's summary in support of motion to strike or limit testimony
§ 18:7 Order granting plaintiff Holt's motion in limine

CHAPTER 19. JURY INSTRUCTIONS

§ 19:1 In general
§ 19:2 Drafting instructions
§ 19:3 Arguing jury instructions to the court
§ 19:4 Plaintiff's proposed jury instructions for case involving defective airbag deployment—Crashworthiness; inadequate design, warning and construction
§ 19:5 Defendants' proposed jury instructions for case involving defective airbag deployment—Crashworthiness; inadequate design, warning and construction
§ 19:6 Joint proposed jury instructions for case involving defective airbag deployment—Crashworthiness; inadequate design, warning and construction

CHAPTER 20. VOIR DIRE

I. IN GENERAL

§ 20:1 Introduction
§ 20:2 Legal foundation
§ 20:3 Practical considerations
§ 20:4 Communicating effectively with a jury panel

§ 20:5 Challenging the jury
§ 20:6 —Preemptory challenges
§ 20:7 —Challenges for cause

II. FORMS

§ 20:8 Written questionnaire
§ 20:9 General voir dire questions
§ 20:10 Voir dire brief
§ 20:11 Preemptory challenge brief—Optional addition to voir dire brief
§ 20:12 Voir dire discussion point outline
§ 20:13 Challenge for cause formula
§ 20:14 Plaintiff's proposed voir dire for case involving defective airbag deployment—Crashworthiness; inadequate design, warning and construction
§ 20:15 Defendants' proposed voir dire for case involving defective airbag deployment—Crashworthiness; inadequate design, warning and construction

CHAPTER 21. OPENING STATEMENT

§ 21:1 Introduction
§ 21:2 Purpose
§ 21:3 Method, generally
§ 21:4 —Turn everything upside down
§ 21:5 Suspend judgment through storytelling
§ 21:6 Legal content
§ 21:7 Legalese
§ 21:8 Length
§ 21:9 Powerpoint
§ 21:10 Theme
§ 21:11 Delivery
§ 21:12 Sample powerpoint show

CHAPTER 22. PRESENTING PLAINTIFF'S CASE IN CHIEF

I. IN GENERAL

§ 22:1 Introduction
§ 22:2 Structuring the case
§ 22:3 Presenting the plaintiff
§ 22:4 Interrogating the defendant
§ 22:5 Questioning the plaintiff
§ 22:6 Lay witnesses

§ 22:7 Health care providers

II. FORMS

§ 22:8 Notice of trial attendance
§ 22:9 Subpoena for trial
§ 22:10 Motion for protective order re trial attendance
§ 22:11 Outline—Sample direct examination of defendant (Mix and match order)
§ 22:12 Sample—Outline direct examination plaintiff (Mix and match order)
§ 22:13 —Outline direct examination lay witness
§ 22:14 —Outline direct examination treating health care provider (Mix and match order)

CHAPTER 23. COUNTERING THE DEFENSE

I. IN GENERAL

§ 23:1 Introduction
§ 23:2 On matters of civility
§ 23:3 Working knowledge of objections
§ 23:4 Common dilemmas
§ 23:5 Deconstructing medical experts
§ 23:6 Deconstructing other experts

II. FORMS

§ 23:7 Objection quick reference sheet (for inclusion in trial notebook)
§ 23:8 Sample outline—Trial cross examination—Defense medical examiner

CHAPTER 24. MOTION FOR DIRECTED VERDICT

I. IN GENERAL

§ 24:1 Introduction
§ 24:2 Liability
§ 24:3 Causation and damages
§ 24:4 Making the motion

II. FORMS

§ 24:5 Motion for directed verdict

CHAPTER 25. CLOSING ARGUMENT

I. IN GENERAL

§ 25:1 Introduction
§ 25:2 Plaintiff's mission in closing argument
§ 25:3 Legal boundaries
§ 25:4 Charts
§ 25:5 Jury instructions
§ 25:6 Verdict form

CHAPTER 26. THE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF MAJOR AUTO INJURY AND DEATH; APPLICATIONS TO LITIGATION

I. INTRODUCTION

§ 26:1 In general
§ 26:2 Crash parameter definitions
§ 26:3 Injury grading
§ 26:4 Sources of crash and injury data

II. THE EPIDEMIOLOGIC LITERATURE ON MAID

§ 26:5 AIS and injury sequelae
§ 26:6 Risk of maximum injury severity by delta-V
§ 26:7 Head injuries and the head injury criterion
§ 26:8 Upper extremity injury
§ 26:9 Lower extremity injuries
§ 26:10 Chest and abdominal injuries

III. INJURY RISK BY CRASH TYPE

§ 26:11 Rear-impact collisions
§ 26:12 Side-impact collisions
§ 26:13 Frontal crashes
§ 26:14 Mixed crash type studies
§ 26:15 Conclusion

Appendix A

Appendix B

Appendix C

Appendix D

CHAPTER 27. MAID LITIGATION AND PROBABILITY

§ 27:1 In general

§ 27:2 MIST v. MAID
§ 27:3 The solution
§ 27:4 Caveats

CHAPTER 28. CASE STUDIES IN MAID AND PROBABILITY

§ 28:1 Introduction
§ 28:2 Case #1—Rollover/ejection following an alleged steering tie rod failure
§ 28:3 Case #2—Allegation of negligent operation of a semi-tractor trailer
§ 28:4 Case #3—Homicide/staged collision

CHAPTER 29. INJURY PATTERN ANALYSIS AS A MEANS OF OCCUPANT POSITION DETERMINATION IN FATAL MAID CASES

§ 29:1 Introduction
§ 29:2 Importance of injury pattern analysis
§ 29:3 Case study
§ 29:4 Conclusion

CHAPTER 30. BASIC PRINCIPLES OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENT RECONSTRUCTIONS IN MAID CASES

§ 30:1 Introduction
§ 30:2 Determining when to use an accident reconstructionist
§ 30:3 Momentum crash reconstruction vs. kinetic energy reconstruction
§ 30:4 Police traffic accident report
§ 30:5 Details from plaintiff, defendant, and any passengers about the crash and vehicles
§ 30:6 Medical records
§ 30:7 Current location and status of each vehicle
§ 30:8 Newton's Laws of Motion—Dynamics
§ 30:9 Primary direction of force (PDOF)
§ 30:10 Defining impact velocity, closing velocity, change of velocity (Δv), and barrier equivalent velocity (BFV)
§ 30:11 Mass-weight of vehicles
§ 30:12 Momentum and kinetic energy
§ 30:13 Kinetic energy (KE) conservation
§ 30:14 Crush measurements to determine kinetic energy
§ 30:15 Protocols for inspecting damaged vehicles

§ 30:16 Prior damage to the vehicle
§ 30:17 Validity of repair estimates
§ 30:18 Witness statements
§ 30:19 Photographs
§ 30:20 —Vehicle photographs
§ 30:21 —Photographs of crash scene
§ 30:22 —Photogrammetry
§ 30:23 Public records
§ 30:24 Night-time crashes
§ 30:25 Wet roads and ice conditions
§ 30:26 Tire marks from skidding, impacts, and after impact
§ 30:27 Photographs of tire marks
§ 30:28 Critical speed-yaw formulas
§ 30:29 Computerized traffic accident reconstruction programs
§ 30:30 Event data recorders
§ 30:31 Curbs, potholes, shoulder drop-offs, and loose gravel
§ 30:32 Pole and tree impacts
§ 30:33 Identity of driver
§ 30:34 Prior or subsequent crashes
§ 30:35 Accuracy of various measuring tasks for reconstructionists
§ 30:36 —Accuracy of pre-impact speed calculation from skid marks
§ 30:37 —Accuracy of yaw marks
§ 30:38 —Accuracy of EDR data
§ 30:39 Conclusion

CHAPTER 31. INJURY BIOMECHANICS

§ 31:1 Introduction
§ 31:2 Defense expert's presentation
§ 31:3 Plaintiff expert's presentation
§ 31:4 Plaintiff expert's affidavits

CHAPTER 32. EVENT DATA RECORDERS

§ 32:1 What is an event data recorder
§ 32:2 Why are they important
§ 32:3 What are the relevant legal issues
§ 32:4 How do they work
§ 32:5 What kind of data can the EDR provide and how does one access it
§ 32:6 How to use the EDR data
§ 32:7 What can go wrong with the EDR and the EDR data
§ 32:8 The frontal air bag did not deploy when it should have

§ 32:9 Government accident statistics tell us about air bag problems
§ 32:10 What's in store for the future

CHAPTER 33. THE ROLE OF THE SEAT BELT IN MAID CASES

I. IN GENERAL

§ 33:1 The purpose and function of seat belts
§ 33:2 How seat belts work
§ 33:3 Seat belts and injuries
§ 33:4 —Ejection
§ 33:5 Non-ejection scenarios
§ 33:6 Conclusion

II. FORMS

§ 33:7 Complaint—Defective occupant restraint system; seat belts, airbag
§ 33:8 Plaintiff's appellate brief regarding defective seatbelt; false latching, inadvertent activation, inertial unlatching

CHAPTER 34. AIR BAG LITIGATION IN MAID CASES

I. IN GENERAL

§ 34:1 The purpose of this article
§ 34:2 The evolution of air bag litigation—Failure to install air bags
§ 34:3 —Air bag induced injuries
§ 34:4 —Nondeployment litigation
§ 34:5 —Side air bag litigation
§ 34:6 Operation of an air bag system
§ 34:7 Industry knowledge of air bag dangers
§ 34:8 Frontal air bag defects, generally
§ 34:9 Design defects
§ 34:10 Warning defects
§ 34:11 Injuries due to nondeployment of the air bag—Causes of nondeployment
§ 34:12 —Difficulties presented by nondeployment cases
§ 34:13 —Accident reconstruction complications
§ 34:14 —The injury causation defense

§ 34:15 Side air bag litigation
§ 34:16 The "black box" a/k/a crash data recorders
§ 34:17 Conclusion
§ 34:18 Takata airbag recall litigation—Scope and nature of problem
§ 34:19 —Takata knowledge of defects
§ 34:20 —Claims against Takata and automakers and current status of litigation

II. FORMS

§ 34:21 Complaint for defective airbag deployment—Crashworthiness; inadequate design, warning and construction; Morris v. Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc., et al
§ 34:22 Answer to complaint for defective airbag deployment with affirmative defenses of defendant Mitsubishi Motors North America Inc.'s Manufacturing Division; Morris v. Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc., et al
§ 34:23 Answer to complaint for defective airbag deployment with affirmative defenses of defendant Mitsubishi Motors R&D of America Inc; Morris v. Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc., et al
§ 34:24 Answer to complaint for defective airbag deployment with affirmative defenses of defendant Mitsubishi Motors Corporation; Morris v. Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc., et al
§ 34:25 Complaint for exploding air bag, alleging strict liability/negligence against automobile manufacturer and air bag manufacturer; negligence/fraud against automobile seller; and negligent entrustment by owner to negligent/unqualified minor driver; Dang v. Honda Motor Co., Takata Corporation, et al.
§ 34:26 Alternate Takata airbag complaint for wrongful deaths/survival/products liability; Lyon v. Honda-Takata
§ 34:27 Takata airbag—Motion for the preservation of evidence of ruptured inflators—Lyon v. Honda-Takata
§ 34:28 —Honda defendants' opposition to emergency motion for preservation of evidence; Lyon v. Honda-Takata
§ 34:29 —Takata defendants' opposition to plaintiff's motion to preserve evidence; Lyon v. Honda-Takata
§ 34:30 Takata airbag; order denying P's motion for the preservation of evidence; Lyon v. Honda-Takata

CHAPTER 35. GM IGNITION SWITCH LITIGATION

I. IN GENERAL

§ 35:1 Introduction
§ 35:2 The ignition switch problem and its impact on airbags
§ 35:3 GM's knowledge of ignition switch issues
§ 35:4 NHTSA investigation related to the ignition switch, and results
§ 35:5 Department of Justice investigation related to the ignition switch, and results
§ 35:6 Effects of GM bankruptcy on ignition switch litigation
§ 35:7 Bellwether cases in multidistrict litigation
§ 35:8 Special compensation fund for crash victims
§ 35:9 GM settles 203 lawsuits over ignition switches

II. FORMS

§ 35:10 Complaint for defective GM ignition switch for wrongful death, products liability (negligence, negligent design, failure to warn, and failure to recall), negligence per se, breach of express warranty, breach of implied warranty of merchantability and fraudulent concealment; Hair v. General Motors LLC, et al.

CHAPTER 36. MOTORCYCLE LITIGATION: WHAT AUTO LITIGATORS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT MOTORCYCLE CASES

§ 36:1 Introduction
§ 36:2 Motorcyclists have an image problem
§ 36:3 Motorcycles operate and perform differently than passenger cars
§ 36:4 Specific defect must be shown
§ 36:5 Other areas of motorcycle litigation
§ 36:6 Helmets
§ 36:7 Common defenses in motorcycle products cases
§ 36:8 Plaintiff's memorandum of law in support of motion in limine to bar evidence that she was contributorily negligent for failing to wear DOT approved helmet, or that DOT approved helmet would have reduced extent of her traumatic brain injury
§ 36:9 Defendant GDTNA's Response to plaintiff's memorandum of law in support of motion in limine

to bar evidence that she was contributorily negligent for failing to wear DOT approved helmet, or that DOT approved helmet would have reduced extent of her traumatic brain injury
§ 36:10 Plaintiff's motion to strike defendant's disclosure of accident reconstruction expert's testimony regarding mechanism of plaintiff's traumatic brain injuries and the effect a helmet would have had in reducing or eliminating plaintiff's closed head injuries
§ 36:11 Complaint for negligence and strict liability alleging defects in motorcycle ("the Road Star") and helmet design, manufacture, and/or warnings; Walker v. Yamaha Motor Co., Ltd., Yamaha Motor Corporation, USA, Tucker Rocky Distributing, and MHR Helmets/Jiangmen Pengcheng Helmets Limited
§ 36:12 Complaint—Motorcycle defect—Hydraulic clutch master cylinder
§ 36:13 Third-party defendant component part manufacturer's motion for summary judgment based on component parts defense; Namola v. DAE-IL USA, Inc., d/b/a Custom Chrome v. SC Seller, Inc. f/k/a Stant Corporation, Docket No. 4:15-CV-2283
§ 36:14 Plaintiffs' memorandum of law in opposition to third-party defendant component part manufacturer's motion for summary judgment based on component parts defense; Namola v. DAE-IL USA, Inc., d/b/a Custom Chrome v. SC Seller, Inc. f/k/a Stant Corporation, Docket No. 4:15-CV-2283
§ 36:15 Third-party defendant component part manufacturer's reply in support of motion for summary judgment based on component parts defense; Namola v. DAE-IL USA, Inc., d/b/a Custom Chrome v. SC Seller, Inc. f/k/a Stant Corporation, Docket No. 4:15-CV-2283

CHAPTER 37. FORMS FOR LITIGATING SUCCESSFUL WRONGFUL DEATH/ SURVIVOR CLAIMS IN MAID CASES

§ 37:1 Successful cases start with the right facts
§ 37:2 Complaint for wrongful death/survival, negligent entrustment, loss of consortium/support, dram shop act seeking compensatory & punitive damages
§ 37:3 Plaintiff's motion for prejudgment attachment of defendant Jeffrey Cleary's assets and for leave to issue discovery regarding Jeffrey Cleary's complete assets

§ 37:4 Response of defendant Jeffery Cleary to plaintiff's motion for prejudgment attachment of defendant Jeffery Cleary's assets and for leave to issue discovery
§ 37:5 Plaintiff's motion in limine #1 through #34
§ 37:6 Plaintiff's trial brief on the issue of wrongful death damages
§ 37:7 Defendant's trial brief
§ 37:8 Plaintiff's supplemental trial brief on the issue of wrongful death damages
§ 37:9 Defendant's supplemental joint trial brief on wrongful death damages
§ 37:10 Plaintiff's tender of proposed final jury instructions

CHAPTER 38. CONSTRUCTING A TAILORED APPROACH TO BUS AND VAN COLLISION CASES

I. IN GENERAL

§ 38:1 Bus and van collision cases—Knowing what "Rules of the Road" apply to your situation is vital
§ 38:2 —Examine the scene
§ 38:3 —Learn who the "players" are
§ 38:4 Each bus/van collision case is different—Motor coach and transit bus claims
§ 38:5 —The school bus case
§ 38:6 —Minibuses, jitneys, and commuter vans
§ 38:7 —Non-commuter vans
§ 38:8 Discovery in bus/van collision cases—Depositions
§ 38:9 Discovery bus/van collision cases—Interrogatories and document requests
§ 38:10 Developing "Rules of the Road" in bus/van collision cases
§ 38:11 Bus and van collision cases—Conclusion
§ 38:12 Discovery in bus/van collision cases—Interrogatories and document requests
§ 38:13 Special timing issues in cases involving governmental entities

II. FORMS

§ 38:14 Complaint—Motor coach; negligent driving
§ 38:15 —Motor coach; negligent driving, negligent hiring/retention
§ 38:16 —Commuter bus

§ 38:17 —Commuter van
§ 38:18 —School bus collision with automobile
§ 38:19 Plaintiff's reply affirmation and memorandum of law in support of motion to strike answer due to spoliation; driver logs, accident report
§ 38:20 Sample accident reconstructionist report; motor coach/truck collision
§ 38:21 Sample commercial transportation safety expert report; FMCSR violations by motor coach company

CHAPTER 39. MAKING CLINICAL SENSE FROM A LEGAL INTAKE INTERVIEW IN A MAID CASE WITH SUSPECTED TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

§ 39:1 Introduction
§ 39:2 Client presenting complaint(s)
§ 39:3 Sorting interview data
§ 39:4 The client as inconsistent historian
§ 39:5 The hyperverbal client
§ 39:6 The apparently high functioning client
§ 39:7 The absentminded client
§ 39:8 The apparently psychiatric client
§ 39:9 The client with an "antisocial" teen history

CHAPTER 40. PSYCHOLOGICAL, PSYCHIATRIC, AND NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL EXPERT TESTIMONY IN MAID CASES

§ 40:1 Introduction
§ 40:2 Selecting an expert
§ 40:3 Identifying potential brain injury
§ 40:4 Definition of brain injuries
§ 40:5 Research the doctor
§ 40:6 Precautions during the defense medical exam (DME)
§ 40:7 Precautions after the defense medical exam
§ 40:8 Types of experts
§ 40:9 The DME and claims of malingering: practical advice
§ 40:10 Malingering tests
§ 40:11 Games defense doctors play with "malingering" tests or neuropsychological tests in general
§ 40:12 Neuropsychological malingering tests
§ 40:13 The discovery deposition of the DME
§ 40:14 Form—Suggested letter to court reporter attending DME

CHAPTER 41. ASSESSING LOSS OF EARNING CAPACITY IN MAID CASES

§ 41:1 Introduction
§ 41:2 The effect of disability
§ 41:3 Government data on disability
§ 41:4 Understanding work disability
§ 41:5 CPS data on work disability
§ 41:6 Work disability criteria
§ 41:7 American community survey
§ 41:8 Advantages of a data-based assessment
§ 41:9 Defining earning capacity
§ 41:10 Earning capacity as a process model
§ 41:11 Assessing earning capacity
§ 41:12 Defining worklife expectancy
§ 41:13 Assessing worklife expectancy
§ 41:14 Social science and the law
§ 41:15 Present value of future lost earnings
§ 41:16 A case for pure offset
§ 41:17 Calculating present value
§ 41:18 Varied practices in discounting
§ 41:19 Theory into practice
§ 41:20 —The case of infant john
§ 41:21 —College student Mike
§ 41:22 —Mature worker Bob
§ 41:23 Conclusion

CHAPTER 42. MEDICAL RESEARCH IN MAID LITIGATION

§ 42:1 Requesting and reviewing the medical record, generally
§ 42:2 —Hospital records
§ 42:3 —Emergency service records
§ 42:4 Building your medical library
§ 42:5 Specific research links related to traumatic injuries
§ 42:6 —Other suggested book lists/links
§ 42:7 Research related to the traumatic injury, generally
§ 42:8 —Define the search
§ 42:9 —Performing the search

CHAPTER 43. MEDICAL DEMONSTRATIVE EVIDENCE (MDE) IN THE MAID CASE: ENHANCING COMMUNICATION WITH VISUAL AIDS

§ 43:1 Introduction

§ 43:2 Medical research
§ 43:3 Client conferences
§ 43:4 Medical expert conferences
§ 43:5 Plaintiff demand letters
§ 43:6 Settlement conferences
§ 43:7 Mediation
§ 43:8 Expert depositions
§ 43:9 Trial
§ 43:10 Medical demonstrative evidence options
§ 43:11 Acquiring medical demonstrative evidence
§ 43:12 Case study
§ 43:13 All things considered

CHAPTER 44. FORENSIC SCIENCE LITIGATION FORMS—ACCIDENT RECONSTRUCTIONIST

§ 44:1 Defendants' memorandum of law to preclude expert testimony (*Daubert* standard)
§ 44:2 Plaintiff's memorandum of law in opposition to defendants' motion to preclude expert testimony (*Daubert* standard)
§ 44:3 Defendants' reply to plaintiff's objection to motion to preclude expert testimony (*Daubert* standard)
§ 44:4 Trial court order granting/denying motion to preclude expert testimony (*Daubert* standard)

CHAPTER 45. FORENSIC SCIENCE LITIGATION FORMS—FORENSIC ECONOMIST

§ 45:1 Report of forensic economist
§ 45:2 Deposition of forensic economist
§ 45:3 Brief in support of defendant's motion to limit or strike the testimony of forensic economist
§ 45:4 Affidavit of forensic economist in support of plaintiffs' memorandum of law opposing motion to limit or strike testimony of forensic economist
§ 45:5 Plaintiffs' memorandum of law opposing defendants' motion to limit or strike testimony of forensic economist
§ 45:6 Order denying defendants' motion in limine to limit testimony of forensic economist

CHAPTER 46. FORENSIC SCIENCE LITIGATION FORMS—RAILROAD GRADE CROSSING CASE

§ 46:1 Complaint; Skrovig v. BNSF Railway Company
§ 46:2 Expert report of human factors engineer; functional field of view, restricted sight conditions provided insufficient time for drivers to avoid collision; Skrovig v. BNSF Railway Company
§ 46:3 Expert resume of Dr. Mark Lee Edwards
§ 46:4 Expert report of accident reconstructionist; existing traffic control at highway-railroad grade crossing and available sight distance; Skrovig v. BNSF Railway Company
§ 46:5 Expert report of vocational economist; preliminary economic loss appraisal for Thomas J. Skrovig; Skrovig v. BNSF Railway Company
§ 46:6 Affidavit of John Scott on behalf of defendant BNSF Railway Company's motion for summary judgment; Skrovig v. BNSF Railway Company

Table of Laws and Rules

Table of Cases

Index