

Note: If you did not order our CD-ROM, please save this tutorial to your computer using Acrobat Reader's commands in the toolbar above so you won't need to download again.

# Jurisdiction<sup>®</sup>

Presents

## Easy Guide to Rules of Court

© 2005 by Dr. Frederick D. Graves, JD  
All Rights Reserved



### Save Money & Protect Your Rights!

Learn the rules that control your courts. It's easy!

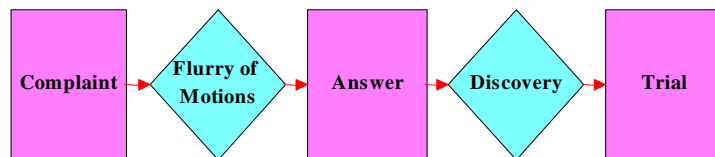
Trying to win a lawsuit without knowing the rules is about as likely as winning at baseball without knowing about balls and strikes. It can't be done!

Why risk losses when you can learn the basic rules for yourself and improve your chances for victory?

Learn the fundamental rules for yourself.

If you can spell CAT you can understand the structure of every lawsuit. If you can count to 5 you can master the basics. Use this *Easy Guide* to learn your rights and exercise all your options to win in court.

Be a winner!



### The Process of Litigation!

The flowchart shows how every legal battle proceeds ... state and federal jurisdictions.

Study the flowchart carefully.

Commit it to memory.

Everything in a lawsuit follows this same process.

Complaint – Answer – Trial

As easy as spelling CAT!

This simple process is followed in every case.

Each phase is explained in this *Easy Guide*.

Remember: "Procedure controls outcome!."

Know the process shown by the flowchart and you've won half the battle! The other half is making an effective record of truth.

## ***Preparing to Win!***

The first step to winning is preparation.

List all pertinent facts and the evidence you have that prove those facts – witnesses, documents, photographs.

Find the applicable law that promises you a favorable verdict based on the facts. Print copies of statutes, case law, constitutional provisions—whatever you’re relying on to win.

Make a rock-solid plan before you begin your action.

Identify weaknesses in your opponents’ case. If he’s in trouble for unpaid taxes, get the government records. If he owns property where you slipped and fell, get a certified copy of his deed .

Be prepared.

You win by showing your case is more believable than the pack of lies your opponent is trying to prove. You do this by offering reliable facts in favor of your position and gathering all the evidence you can find that tends to show your adversary is a dishonest person who selfishly disregards even the most fundamental the principles of justice.

If you’re unwilling to fight this way, you shouldn’t be in court, because establishing the truth of your own case and the lies and injustice of the other side is how you win lawsuits.

Establish a record of strengths in your own case.

Plan to shoot holes in your adversary’s case.

Use common-sense to make a winning Court record.

Everything depends on making a record of the facts and law in your favor. Plan your record from the start.

## ***The Burden of Proof!***

The burden to prove any fact offered in court is on the person offering the fact. It’s not your word against theirs. Don’t get backed in a corner trying to deny your opponent’s claims. Make them prove what they say is true. The burden is on the person making a claim, not on the person denying it.

Unless they can prove what they say ... you win!

## ***The Right to Sue: Causes of Action***

The most important thing to know about a lawsuit is whether the person bringing it has a right to do so.

The right to file a lawsuit is called a cause of action. If a plaintiff doesn’t have at least one cause of action, i.e., a legitimate right to sue, the defendant wins.

All causes of action arise from some breach of duty.

For example, a contract creates a duty. If the other side breaches the contract, the cause of action is called breach of contract.

Everyone also has a duty to be careful around others. The breach of this duty to be careful is called negligence.

If you're injured as a result of someone breaking the law, your cause of action is called negligence *per se*.

The only thing you have to do to win a lawsuit is prove the elements of your causes of action by getting the necessary facts and law on the public record. Once the record of facts is properly "made" (i.e., the facts you allege are proven by a greater weight of evidence), the Court is required to do its job, follow the law, and give you a favorable verdict!

If you're the person who should win, you will win!

Know your rights!

## ***The Complaint: Where it Begins***

To win a breach of contract case, for example, you need only prove there was an enforceable contract, that the other guy breached the contract, and that you suffered damages as a result.

To win a negligence case you need to prove the other side owed a duty, they breached the duty, and your injury was a direct result.

Proving duty and damages is what winning requires.

Begin with a complete case-stating complaint.

State all the facts and law you must prove to win. Use numbered sentences. Use single sentences with only one subject and one verb. Avoid adjectives and adverbs as much as possible. Keep your statements simple.

Tell the whole story, though. Omit nothing you must prove, for if you fail to allege what's needed to prove your case, you'll fight with one hand tied behind your back. State the case in concise, numbered sentences.

Say what must be said and no more. Say only what you need to prove. Add nothing that will not help you win. Don't give your opponent any wiggle room.

Stick to facts and law. Opinions are like noses. Every person has one. Stick to essential facts and law.

Make your record by stating all you must to prove to win. State facts as they are. State law that will control the court's decision if you prove your facts are true.

The complaint is your initial presentation of the case. Do a good job. Courts rely on complaints to say what cases are about. Make a good impression.



Tell your story clearly. Tell precisely what you want, why you want it, and why you think the court should give it to you. Use words ordinary people understand.

Be direct. Come to the point. Being straightforward is a badge of honesty. Liars embellish and beat around the bush. Don't do it. Show you have nothing to hide. State your case in simple language.

After you've filed your case with the clerk and served copies of complaint and summons on the defendant, the ball is in the other guy's court. He must answer or find some fault with your complaint that gives him an out so he can avoid answering.

Finding an out is done in the flurry of motions phase.

### ***Flurry of Motions: Avoiding the Answer***

Once the complaint is served on the defendant, he has to act. He cannot ignore it, because the complaint was served with the Court's summons commanding him to respond. He can either

- (1) answer the complaint or
- (2) file a flurry of motions to avoid it altogether.

The flurry of motions is nothing more than an attempt to avoid answering a complaint. The defendant may do one of three things to avoid answering:

- Move the court for an order striking the complaint,
- Move the court for an order dismissing the complaint, or
- Move the court for an order requiring plaintiff to re-state his complaint.

That's the flurry of motions ... avoiding the answer.

### ***Motions to Strike***

Motions to strike ask the Court to delete part or all of a complaint for being scandalous, impertinent, insolent, immaterial, irrelevant, or utterly false and known to the pleader to be false. Motions to strike can be very effective ways to draw the court's attention to the character of your opponent.

### ***Motions to Dismiss***

Motions to dismiss ask the court to deny the plaintiff relief because of one of the following:

- (1) court lacks jurisdiction over subject of case,
- (2) court lacks jurisdiction over defendant,
- (3) summons was defective,
- (4) service of summons was ineffective,
- (5) the complaint fails to state a cause of action,
- (6) case is filed in wrong venue,
- (7) complaint fails name necessary defendant

Use motions to dismiss to make your record. Consult local rules at the law library of your courthouse for the official rules of procedure governing your local court.

## ***Motions for More Definite Statement***

Motions for a more definite statement can be fun!

Some people (including lawyers) are so sloppy with writing that they omit verbs from sentences or write statements that have no nouns!

In such cases move the court to order the pleader to re-write his pleading so it can be understood by people of average intelligence. If you cannot understand what a person is saying in his or her complaint, you will not be required to file an answer.

If the flurry of motions fails, the defendant must then answer the complaint ... line by line.

## ***The Answer: Tying it Together***

By the time a defendant answers the complaint (if the complaint was well-written and stated all you need to prove to win the case) you will know what you have to prove. The defendant will admit some of your individual numbered allegations. He will deny others. He may also claim he does not have sufficient knowledge to answer some items.

When the answer is filed, however, you'll have part of your record made, because everything the defendant admits in his answer is admitted for all purposes. This is why we urge you to state complaints in numbered sentences that allege one fact each, so the defendant is required to admit important facts when he answers.

The only things you need to prove are the things your defendant denies in his answer.

If you believe a defendant is lying when he denies or says he has insufficient knowledge, dig for evidence to prove his lie and put it in the record. The more you do this the sooner you win.

Make the court *see* who should win.

Use the answer to map your case, then use pre-trial discovery to get facts you need to fill remaining blanks prior to trial.

## ***Discovery: The Key to Success***

There are five ways to get facts on the public record.

- Request for Admissions
- Request for Production
- Interrogatories (questions)
- Depositions (pre-trial interviews)
- Court Process (summonses, etc.)

Each of these has an advantage over the others. Each get at certain facts better than others.

Use them all.

## ***Request for Admissions***

By far the most powerful discovery tool is the request for admissions. If a party refuses to respond in good faith to a request for admissions, the court may dismiss his case and award judgment (or send the party to jail until he does respond in good faith).

For example, you can require your opponent to admit he was driving when his car slammed into yours killing the parakeet in your back seat. If you say it this way, however, you may not learn much, because he may say he has no knowledge if he doesn't know your parakeet was killed. He doesn't have to admit the other facts if any part of your statement is beyond his knowledge.

Break the complaint into single sentences, like this:

- (1) Admit you were driving your car 13 March 1999.
- (2) Admit your car slammed into plaintiff's car.
- (3) Admit plaintiff's car was damaged as a result.
- (4) Admit parakeet in plaintiff's back seat was killed.

The defendant will now be required to admit the first three statements, even if he doesn't know the last.

Use requests for admissions. They lock the record for all facts admitted and, if the other side lies, you can pin him by presenting evidence at trial.

This is how you win!

Show the court you are the person who should win by making an effective record using discovery tools.

## ***Request for Production***

Once you are in a lawsuit, either side may require the other to produce nearly anything that has any relevance to issues before the court. If a toothbrush is relevant, you can request its production, and the other side must produce (or go to jail).

This is powerful stuff!

Parties can request production of documents, photographs, books, toothbrushes—anything likely to lead to discovery of relevant evidence to assist the Court in its search for the truth.

Request original documents instead of copies. If you accept copies (a common practice) you run the risk of the other side doctoring the papers. Don't do it.

You can then make copies of the originals. (You may have to pay for copies.)

## ***Interrogatories***

Interrogatories are written questions. That's what the big word means. Questions your opponent must answer under oath (or go to jail).

Some jurisdictions limit the total number of questions you can ask. Use them sparingly. Make each question count. Save some to use before trial. Don't use interrogatories if you can get information by another means, e.g., requests for admission or production.

Save your interrogatories.

You can learn a lot by deposing the other side, but remember you usually get to depose a party only once. After that, if you need to ask a question to get ready for trial—and cannot get the information with a request for admission or production—you'll wish you had a few interrogatories left over. Don't use them all up front.

This same principle applies to any discovery tool that is limited in your local jurisdiction.



## ***Depositions***

Depositions are expensive and overrated, yet they do afford advantages you won't have before trial with any other discovery tool. You get to meet the witnesses in person. You get to hear their voice and watch their face. In some jurisdictions you can even videotape them so you can show the jury how they squirmed when you asked about their gun collection or where they got the money for their European vacation.

Use depositions by all means, but not until you know as much as you can find out about the case by other discovery methods.

Know what you're going to ask at deposition before you begin. Plan your questions. Know what the witness knows and be prepared to make him tell. Know all you can know about your case before deposing anyone.

Since you usually get to depose a witness only once, the next time you hear the witness' voice he will be on the witness stand at trial. If you don't know what he's going to say before you get to trial, you did a poor job of preparing your case.

Use interrogatories, requests for admissions, requests for production, and subpoenas to learn what a witness knows before you depose him. Know what he's going to say (and how to catch him in a lie) when he's called again at trial.

By the way, this is how clever lawyers encourage the other side to settle rather than be taken to court and shown for the scoundrels they truly are.

## ***Court Process: Subpoenas, Writs, etc.***

If you've done a good job with initial discovery tools and still don't have all facts you need to win your case, you may apply to the court for assistance in the form of subpoenas, writs and special orders.

For example, if a neighbor says you stuck him with a pitchfork while he was visiting in your barn, you may get a court ordered medical examination to determine if he was stuck in any way or just making it up because he's jealous of your prize pig.

If you need to inspect the inside of your bank's vault to discover some fact relevant to the outcome of your case, the court may order the bank to permit you to do your inspection (with reasonable controls, of course).

Things ordinarily denied can be ordered by the court if you convince a judge the facts sought are relevant to the outcome of your case. How well you've stated your case on the record, of course, will tell the court how far it should go to help you prove what you say is true.

You can't look under your neighbor's mattress unless you first satisfy the Court there's something there that has a significant bearing on the outcome of your case.

There's not a thing anyone can say or do at trial that you cannot discover before trial and put in the record.

There's no question you can ask witnesses at trial that you cannot ask before trial.

There's not one shred of evidence you can require to be produced at trial that you cannot obtain before trial.

Make your record before trial.

### ***Trial: Playing Your Cards***

If you haven't won by the time the case is ready to go before the judge and jury, you either haven't done your best or you're not the person who should win. You will ask no question and obtain no evidence at trial that you could not have asked or obtained before trial. Trial is where you tell the court what you've got!

Either you have a winning hand, or you do not.

Trial is where you play your cards.

If you have not settled before trial, do not go without an experienced trial attorney. All preparation for trial may be lost if not handled properly at trial. There may be a jury to pick, subpoenas to be served for witnesses to appear, tricky evidence rules regarding hearsay or other complex issues that don't apply during discovery.

Even an experienced trial lawyer can lose his head in the heat of courtroom battle. Don't go it alone.

Help your lawyer with preparation for trial, however if you try the case on your own you are running a great risk and may become your own worst enemy.

It's not as easy as it appears on TV!

Get involved preparing your case for trial, drafting effective pleadings and using discovery to get the facts you'll need to present at trial. Be involved in pre-trial proceedings and guide your lawyer in the facts. (After all, you know the facts far better than the lawyer.)

When it comes to actually going to trial, however, do not go alone. Hire an experienced trial lawyer.

Be prepared. Have your facts and law ready to go to trial when the time comes.

Use effective pleadings.

Get your discovery.

Make a record.

### ***Jurisdiction: The Power to Rule***

Any time a court lacks power to rule in your case, move to dismiss at once.

Even on the last day of trial, if you discover a court lacks official power to rule, move for dismissal.



For example, a case may depend on statutory authority, as when a receiver needs to be appointed to take control of a company in trouble. The statute may set out conditions when the Court may act to appoint receivers. If the conditions do not exist, the court has no power. A motion to dismiss for lack of jurisdiction would carry.

Any time a court acts outside legal authority, move it to dismiss and be prepared to appeal if it refuses.

### ***Move the Court: Getting Your Way!***

If you want the court to do something, *ask for it with a motion!*

Move the Court to enter orders.

Say, "I move the Court to order the bailiff to open a window. It's stuffy in here." You're allowed to move the court to order anything that's reasonably necessary to affect justice. If a courtroom is too stuffy, move the court to order the window opened!

Or say, "I move the Court for an order taking notice on the record that my opponent is making ugly faces at the witness and pointing over his shoulder at me when you aren't watching."

"The Court so notes," might be the answer, and your record is made.

You have been paying attention, haven't you? This is all about making the record clear. That's how you win!

Move the Court for orders. If your opponent doesn't do what he is supposed to do, move the Court to order him to do it. If he refuses to answer your discovery requests in a timely manner and in good faith, for example, move the Court for an order commanding him to respond or pay a fine or have his case dismissed or go to jail *or any other relief that seems reasonable*.

Move the Court for orders.

Don't be shy.

Be bold. This is your life. The judge is going home to his wife and kids when your case is over. You're not quite sure what you're going home to.

Move the Court for orders. Get your way.

Everything you need to get justice is a reason to speak up. Be heard. Make your record.

If you need a doctor to produce more records, move the Court for an order commanding the doctor to produce what you need. If you need clarification of the meaning of a word the other side has used in one of its papers, move the Court for an order commanding the clarification.

Courts give orders. That's what courts do. They give no orders, however, unless you move them to do so.

You may wish an order that you don't have to pay the other side's lawyers. You may wish an order finding as a matter of fact that the other guy lied on the record.

There's only one way to get the Court's orders.

Move the court.

## ***Writing Effectively***

Litigation is a chance to prove you're a good writer.

Are you? Do you express yourself well? Can you say precisely what you mean and carry meaning precisely to others ... on paper?

This is what it takes to win. Making a clear record.

If you don't make a clear record, you cannot hope to win (especially if the other side has a talented lawyer).

You protect yourself by making a clear record.

Make one ... in writing that is clear and concise.

Use simple sentences with easy words, instead of the long verbose kind like this obfuscation of irrelevance that's no more than verbal tintinnabulation that drones incessantly for no greater purpose than to fill space on the page that might better have been occupied by some less loquaciously garrulous minutiae.

See the point?

Some write to impress others with “style”. Don’t do it. Keep sentences simple.

Number sentences so they can be referred to in future papers. This is true with pleadings, motions, notices, and all other formal papers filed with the Court.

Use simple sentences with one verb, one noun, and as few adjectives and adverbs as possible.

The secret to winning in court is making an effective written record of the facts and law ... clearly stated.

We recommend two books on writing: Elements of Style by Strunk & White and Art of Readable Writing by Rudolph Flesch. Buy and read these books over and over. By writing effectively you overcome by making a better written record of the facts and law.

Why a written record?

Why all the fuss about record-making?

Judges don’t like to be embarrassed by appeals that over-rule them. They wish to be approved, not disapproved. A written record makes the entire picture clear to the appellate court and encourages judges to be more prudent, knowing they are “watched” from above. If you fail to make a record and must appeal, you’ll have to have something to show the higher court. You don’t get a second chance. You get appellate review only if you have an effective written record.

Without a record to review there can be no appeal.

Learn to write effectively and make your record!

## ***Finding the Law***

Congratulate yourself. You live in an information age. Even homeless people can go to the public library and surf the net for information.

Never in the history of mankind has it been so easy to find law.

Anyone with a computer can find the statutes in Florida, for example, or West Virginia’s rules of court.

It’s all out there.

For example, you can find the law about dog bites in your jurisdiction after just a few minutes on the web. You can find local law for state and federal courts and even laws of foreign nations—all a mouse-click away.

Just remember that the law you find must control in your jurisdiction. It’s of no importance, generally, what Montana might have to say about child support or the number of signatures required for a valid will if you live in Pittsburgh. Find the law in your jurisdiction.

Use your local law library. Most courthouses have complete law libraries. Lawyers are generally willing to allow you to read a book in their office, if you don’t ask to take it home. Some have



digests or annotated statutes that lead directly to cases applicable to issues in your own case. Search for automobile negligence in one of these sets of books, for example, and you'll find references to cases or statutes that explain what the law is on those issues in your jurisdiction.

Use the internet. Most state bar associations and state supreme courts have websites jammed with useful information, including official legal resources.

Above all, keep up with local rules of procedure and evidence codes. Remember, obeying rules of procedure and evidence codes is what gives victory to the good guys.

Play by the rules.

Make everyone play by the rules.

## ***Dealing with Liars***

Usually, when two people disagree about a fact, one is either lying or mistaken. No truth can be two things at the same time!

One of the ancient maxims of justice says, "A thing similar is not exactly the same."

If the plaintiff says she didn't run the stop sign, and the defendant says she did, one is either lying or mistaken. It cannot be otherwise.

If a party can be proven in a lie, the other party gains points toward victory.

Fortunately, we have several tools to deal with liars.

First, of course, is the oath. Pretty much every word spoken in court can be put under oath. Some states will not punish a perjurer unless the oath is taken before the perjury. Witnesses, therefore, are usually sworn before they give testimony. Insist on it.

If a lawyer for the other side begins to "testify", i.e., speak for his client as if he himself knew for certain what the facts are, move the court to swear the lawyer in before he continues. If the lawyer does not know for certain what he is saying is true, call him on it. Either he stops testifying or he submits to the oath and possible perjury penalties. You have a legal right to require all testimony to be presented under oath. Insist on it.

The other tool for showing your opponent is a liar is cross-examination – a powerful tool for getting at the truth. Try it on a friend. Ask leading questions and see where it takes you. You can probably get your friend to confess things he'd never volunteer. Of course, in your test case, the friend will stop talking before revealing all the information you could pry out of him if he were required to answer you or go to jail.

In court a witness subject to cross-examination is in a tight spot. He either answers on cross-examination or he's held in contempt of court. The truth comes out!

Prove your opponent lied about one thing and the Court may suspect he lied about other things as well.

Lawsuits can be an amusing game of wits.

To win, of course, you must tell the truth.

## ***You Can Change the World!***

One form of lawsuit you need to know more about is the injunction. Also called “the power of the people”, injunctions are able to command officials to answer your questions and concerns about what they’re doing with your children, your tax dollars, and the future of your country. There are no limitations on injunctions. You can file a lawsuit seeking an injunction to require a local school board to tell why kids are being taught non-traditional values, to stop chemical dumping in the river, or to fill dangerous potholes in the highway. You can even bring an action to enjoin leaders to explain why government doesn’t teach its public even the most basic principles of justice and how to win in court.

Exercise your legal rights.

Make the world a better place through law and order.

Force government and large businesses to answer you on the public record.

It’s your right!

You don’t have to take abuse from anyone.

Not now. Not ever.

Learn your right to be heard by the Court. Learn how to move the Court. Make everyone obey the rules – the American way – no exceptions.

Put truth on the public record!

## ***Evidence: What Gets In?***

Evidence is what proves facts. If one side says it was 9:00 a.m., and the other side says it was late afternoon, evidence is that stuff courts consider to establish truth. Evidence can be testimony of witnesses, documents, photographs, almost anything you can think of provided it’s relevant to the outcome by having some value to prove or disprove a fact that’s material to the case. This is the first rule of evidence.

If it’s relevant, it’s admissible ... if it doesn’t fall into one of the exceptions.

If Henny Penny says Chicken Licken said, “Awk! The sky is falling,” that’s hearsay. Hearsay is inadmissible (unless it falls into one of the hearsay exceptions).



For example, the exclamation of a dying man, though he cannot appear in court to be cross-examined, may be admissible as an exception to the hearsay rule.

Learn more with **Jurisdiction<sup>®</sup> Tutorials**.

Evidence rules are spattered with exceptions. In each jurisdiction exceptions vary. Consult local official rules for details. [Florida's evidence code is only about 30 pages, and most is commentary, not rules.]

Common sense dictates the rules of evidence.

If a statement, document, photo, or other "evidence" for or against an asserted fact tends to prove the fact is true or false, it is admissible as evidence if it does not fall into one of the exceptions.

Generally speaking, if something offered for the record is "evident", i.e., it can be plainly seen to be true and is relevant, it's admissible. The rules exclude "evidence" that is not plainly evident to reasonable persons, e.g., what Chicken Licken may or may not have said to Henny Penny about the sky falling.

The purpose of evidence rules is primarily to prevent the record from containing misleading or unreliable information that might unjustly distort the outcome. Only if evidence is reliable and relevant should it come in. All rules about exceptions really stand on this simple premise.

If evidence is reliable and relevant, it comes in.

If it is unreliable or has no relationship to the issues before the court, it is excluded.

Privileged communications are also excluded to protect privacy rights. Though cross-examination and liberal discovery should be allowed to pry into facts that tend to show the court who should win, there must be limits. Therefore, most jurisdictions exclude questions about privileged communications between spouses, attorneys and clients, priests and penitents, etc.

Check local rules for details.

Use common sense, Most evidence rules protect both parties from conjectures, wild assumptions, and statements that cannot be relied on as true. Truth is the goal. The rules of evidence in most jurisdictions obey common sense principles that lead the court to find truth.

Learn your local evidence rules and make sure the other side is not allowed to introduce anything iffy or bogus.

Move your Court to enforce the rules.

They are written so you can win!

### ***Judicial Notice: Getting Court Help!***

Some things don't need to be proved. A Court can be required to make a record of such things without proof. You do this by moving the court to take judicial notice of the thing.

For example, 17 June 2001 fell on Sunday. This fact needs no proof. The court must take judicial notice of the fact. You don't need to expend time and energy to prove what is beyond dispute.

Another example is law. If the law where you live doubles speeding fines in school zones, you can move the court to take judicial notice. The court must do so.

Move the court to take notice of as many things as you can ... so you don't have to "prove" them.

Early on in your case move the court to take judicial notice of particular laws that control the outcome of your battle. If there's a statute that says you are entitled to win on the facts presented, move the court to take judicial notice of the law and order it in the record.

### ***Making Arguments: Stringing Pearls***

Making an effective argument is like stringing pearls.

You can only add one pearl at-a-time. Sure, you can try to put more than one on the string at one time, but anyone who's tried it knows what happens sooner or later. Pearls get scattered on the floor.

Better to do it one at-a-time.

Making effective arguments is very much the same.

Start with the most basic fact or law you need to establish. Once you make this first point, move on to the next.

Argue in an orderly fashion one pearl at-a-time.

Don't rush arguments and, by all means, don't skip pearls!

Good people lose by failure to make orderly argument more than by any other cause. Effective argument proceeds in a logical path from valid first premises. Don't jump from one thing to the next with no rhyme or reason.

Make arguments like you were building a house: foundation first, then floor, then walls, then roof. Don't put in doors and windows until walls are up. Don't put on the roof until the foundation is firmly laid.

Don't appeal to emotion if you can avoid it. In court the rules are supposed to rule, not feelings. If feelings have something to do with the degree of damages, then by all means explain to the court what is felt about the injuries complained of. At the same time, don't get so carried away with emotions that you forget to make a logical, systematic argument that proceeds from an unshakable foundation and builds logically to the conclusion you wish the court to reach.

Like stringing pearls, make each point one at-a-time.



Make your record count. Put it together with a plan that makes clear to anyone who reads it that you are the person who should win.

## ***The Power of Being Right!***

Many people lose because they should lose. Too many good people lose, however, because they don't know how to win. The promise in all this is that rules really are written so good guys win (most of the time).

Honesty is the best policy.

If you're a person who should win and you apply the rules to require every participant (including the judge and opposing lawyers) to obey the rules, you will win.

Power is in being right.

Victory goes to the party whose cause is just (unless that party doesn't know even the fundamentals taught by this ***Easy Guide*** or refuses to avail himself of the advantages knowledge brings).

Being on a winning side begins with decisions made before lawsuits are filed. After all, most lawsuits are about something in the past ... avoidable things.

The question, "Who should win?", is asked about the issues that existed at the time of breach that caused the injury complained of. It's the good guy in that situation that should win in court.

Being right, therefore, is the surest way to win in court.

Be honest.

Be fair.

Tell the truth.

Then, if you are sued, take up for yourself! Use the rules taught by this ***Easy Guide*** and the other ***Tutorials*** available at our website.

Make a record of the truth.

Show the Court what kind of person you are.

Prove the other fellow is lying.

Prove the other fellow was driving too fast.

Prove the other fellow broke his promise first.

Courts like good guys.

Then, when you're sued, use the tools taught by this ***Easy Guide*** to improve the odds.

If you're a person who *should* win, then in most cases all you need to know is **how to win**.

This ***Easy Guide*** covers the basic things you need to know to win in court. There are many other things you can learn that will help you improve your chances for victory in court ... more details, more how-to tactics, more examples.

Visit our website often to order from our growing list of ***Tutorials***.

- *Motions & Hearings*
- *Evidence Made Easy*
- *Causes of Action and Defenses*
- *Forms for Civil Cases*
- *How to Be Heard*
- *How to Win*
- *Maxims of Common Law*
- *Summary Judgment (The Pig Case)*
- *How to Hire a Lawyer*
- *Lawsuit Flowchart*
- *Natural Law*
- *The Language of Law*
- *Natural Law*

**And, of course, our FREE dictionary of legal terminology with explanations.**

Public legal education should be a fundamental right of every citizen. People have a right to know how to speak to Courts and how to get Court to grant relief when they're being unjustly injured. The right to know how to win is essential to liberty.

You owe it to yourself and to your family and friends to learn how to use our Courts and teach others how to enforce justice to make the world a better place for all.

First, you must be right.

Live by the Golden Rule.

Then, when injuries come (as injuries do) you'll be able to win by applying the principles of justice and by requiring everyone in court to follow the rules.

The Rule of Law supports the Golden Rule.

The Golden Rule guides the Rule of Law.

American principles of due process and equal access to justice make life in this nation much better than life where these principles are routinely abused by the rich and powerful.

Believe in America. She believes in you.

## **Conclusion**

This *Easy Guide* only touched on the most basic of principles and tactics for winning lawsuits.

To learn more visit our website [www.jurisdictionary.com](http://www.jurisdictionary.com) and order more advanced *Tutorials*.

The power to win belongs to you, your family, friends, neighbors ... everyone!

Use it to do good.

⌘ Teach your Children about Justice ⌘



© 2005 by Dr. Frederick D. Graves

*All Rights Reserved*

**Jurisdiction**<sup>®</sup>

816 Dolphin Drive, Stuart, Florida 34996  
Toll Free: 866-Law-Easy

[lawbook@Jurisdiction.com](mailto:lawbook@Jurisdiction.com)

Learn More About Lawsuits at [www.jurisdiction.com](http://www.jurisdiction.com)