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Speaker



Stephen D. Easton Dickinson State University Dickinson, ND

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Stephen D. Easton Dickinson State University, *Dickinson, ND*

Steve, president of the university, is a trial lawyer and award-winning teacher who is known for his practical and entertaining presentations. He served as the U.S. attorney for the District of North Dakota and was dean of the University of Wyoming College of Law for four years.

Schedule

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8:30am	Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00am	Welcome, Introductions, and Updates Fatima Bolyea, Chair, Litigation Section of the State Bar of Michigan, Mantese Honigman PC, <i>Troy</i>
9:10am	Categories of Evidence, Evidence Law, and Witnesses Determine relevance; assess materiality; address competence; offer real evidence; use demonstrative evidence; work with documentary evidence solicit testimony (aka viva voce evidence); bolster the competence of face witnesses; avoid leading questions in direct examination.
10:30am	Networking Break
10:45am	Witnesses, Opinions, Best Evidence Rule, and Authentication Use the exceptions to ask leading questions; manage the witness who freezes on the stand; apply the best evidence rule; handle the exception to the best evidence rule; focus on authentication issues; establish when to use expert and lay witness opinions; incorporate common permissible lay opinions.
12:15pm	Lunch on Your Own
1:15pm	Expert Testimony, Cross-Examination, and Impeachment Get to the basis of expert opinion; pay the expert; deal with witness credibility; impeach the witness.
2:45pm	Networking and Refreshment Break: Sponsored by the Litigation Section of the State Bar of Michigan
3:00pm	Character Evidence and Hearsay Distinguish the propensity inference ban; challenge admission of prior bad acts (Rule in Smith's Case); determine the "real burden of proof" and who has it when; apply the rule against hearsay; consider the hearsay exceptions.
4:30pm	Questions and Answers

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