

Society of Expert Witnesses

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Autumn Conference, Sedgebrook Hall, Chapel Brampton, Northampton
Friday October 8th & Saturday October 9th 2010

Friday 8 October 2010	
09.15	Registration and Coffee
09.45	Welcome
09.50	Session 1: Increasing Pressure on Experts
09.50–10.20	<i>In Meadow v GMC and the appeal from it expert immunity from suit was re-affirmed but experts were left exposed to double jeopardy at the hands of their professional bodies. Now expert immunity is again at risk in Jones v Kaney. Chris Pamplin spells out the wide threats to your entire professional standing.</i>
10.20-10.35	Discussion: Immunity v professional discipline; what the SEW can do on behalf of expert witnesses
10.35-11.00	How to Present Yourself. What the rules require you to say about yourself Richard Cory-Pearce sets out. He gives tips on achieving the right quality of self-promotion without putting your head on the block.
11.00–11.30	Coffee
11.30	Session 2: Good Preparation Pays
11.30–12.00	<i>Continuing the tricky business of securing an appointment, Richard Cory-Pearce next addresses the negotiation of the terms from first contact to firm contract. He will also summarize what the rules require you to ensure is in your instructions.</i>
12.00-12.30	<i>Practising accountant and Society Treasurer, John Brace, covers the important areas of record keeping & credit control. Many experts are unsure of the usual customs and habits adopted by the legal fraternity; John will give the guidance you need.</i>
12.30–14.00	Lunch
14.00	Session 3: Putting it into Practice
14.00–14.45	Spreading the Word. Directory and register authority Chris Pamplin explains what publishing your details can do for you together with the costs and pitfalls. He also gives tips on how to set up or improve your own website. The talk is followed by questions and open discussion.
14.45-15.30	<i>Many expert witnesses recount bad experiences in the witness box. Frazer Imrie shows you how to spot booby traps, repel attacks and generally how to survive cross-examination. Discussion follows.</i>
15.30-16.00	Tea
16.00	Session 4: Old Chestnut and New Vista
16.00–16.30	How to get paid by criminal courts. Experts find the system for payment complex and inconsistent. Eddie Josse is an old hand with much useful experience.
16.30-17.00	Broadening your horizons. Now that you have all you need to be safe and confident, Media Expert Tom Magner has extra hints on extending your practice. He tells you how to get the best out of the media when promoting your practice and how to spread into overseas markets .
17.00-17.30	Open Forum <i>Your opportunity to air any problems not yet covered.</i>
17.30	Closing Remarks
19.30	Drinks Reception
20.00	Society Dinner
Saturday 9 October 2010	
Workshop Sessions	
10.00–12.30	High-quality hands-on training run in small groups by experienced expert witnesses. 1 Get Your Terms of Appointment Right <i>Richard Cory-Pearce</i> 2 Content and Layout of a Good Report <i>Frazer Imrie</i>