

Courtroom Do's & Don'ts

How to Dress for Court	Your Courtroom Behavior
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do dress as you would for an important event.• Don't wear T-shirts with messages.• Don't dress down to gain sympathy.• Don't chew gum.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do be polite, no matter what is said in the court room.• Do be on time for court.• Don't react to what is said by other witnesses.• Don't argue with the other party, their attorney, or the judge.

When You are Testifying

Do	Don't
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do listen to the entire question being asked before you answer.• Do tell the judge if you do not understand a question.• Do answer with only "yes" and "no" when you can.• Do answer questions even if some seem stupid or foolish to you.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Don't mumble; speak loudly enough to be heard by everyone in the room.• Don't lie about anything, not even white [small] lies. If you are discovered to be lying, the judge may find it hard to believe you when you are telling the truth.• Don't argue with the questioner.• Don't ask questions back: "What would you do if..."