

Becoming a Highly Credible Expert

*Presenter: Lenore Boyarin, Esq.
Sussan, Greenwald & Wesler*

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Learning Objectives:

- By the end of this presentation participants will:
 1. Explain what's an expert
 2. Discuss components of forensic reports
 3. Describe credibility pitfalls

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What's an Expert?

- An expert in Court- “Daubert Standard”
- The Judge is the “gatekeeper”
- Sound Methodology
- Consistent with Evidence
- Opinion is generally accepted in the Professional Community
- Subjected to Peer Review and Publication

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What's an Expert? (cont.)

- More than a “lay person” standard-Office of Administrative Law

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Continuing Education



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Diagnosis Specific Continuing Education



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Selection of Assessment Tools



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Components of a Forensic Report

- Background
- Social/Developmental History
- Medical History
- Educational History
- Previous Assessments – your discipline and others

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Components of a Forensic Report

- First-hand Observation
- First-hand Assessment
- Interviews with other Experts and Providers
- Description of Assessment Process
- Conclusions
- Recommendations

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Credibility Pitfalls



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Best Practice in the Industry



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Too Much Reliance on Parent/Guardian Input

NOT AN EXPERT

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Not Enough Input From School Personnel



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“Hired Gun”



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Not Knowing the Law



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Reading the Room/Judge



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Case Study for Language-Based Learning Disability

Expert On the Case:
NJ Based SLP



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Case Study for Autism

Expert On the Case:
NJ Based SLP



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Q & A

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Call or email with feedback or questions

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