

## Prep & Presenting Your Case

June 20, 2018

#### What Will Be Covered Today?

#### "Preparing & Presenting Your Case"

Learn to build a more focused case and communicate effectively at hearings or trials.

#### Topics that will be addressed include:

- Collaborating and identifying key case documents (exhibits)
- Establishing key issues and building your case themes and timeline
- Preparing your witness and creating witness folders outlines/folders
- Tools for identifying key deposition testimony
- Best practices for case presentations
- Using technology at hearings or trials



## **Case Preparation**

#### **General Document Collaboration Tools**

- OK for attorney work product / notes
- Not a great idea for handling case evidence
  - No litigation-specific functions (i.e. designations)
  - Insufficient security / confidentiality concerns

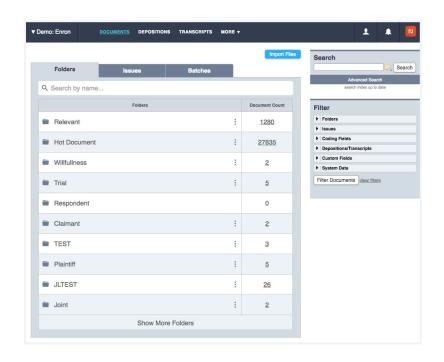




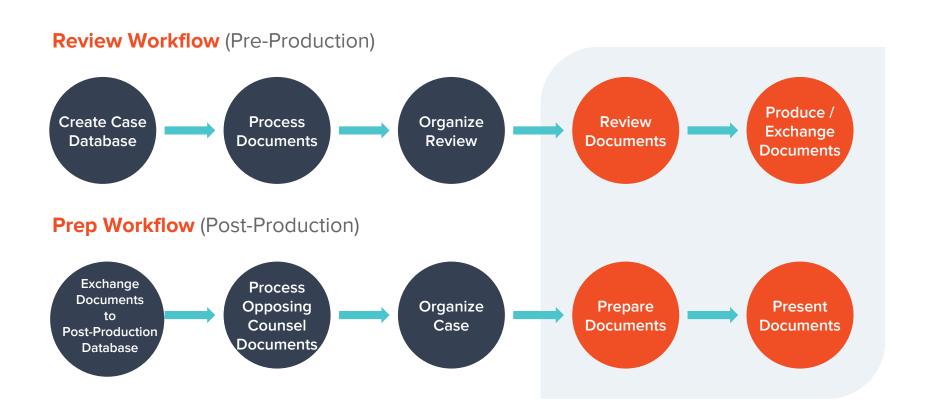


#### Litigation-Specific Doc Collaboration Tools

- Functionality around litigation workflows
- Searchability
- Organization and tracking
- Capture of work product
  - Witness folders
  - Issue tagging
  - Reporting



#### Organize Documents: Understand the Workflow



#### Organize Documents: Identify Your Key Case Documents

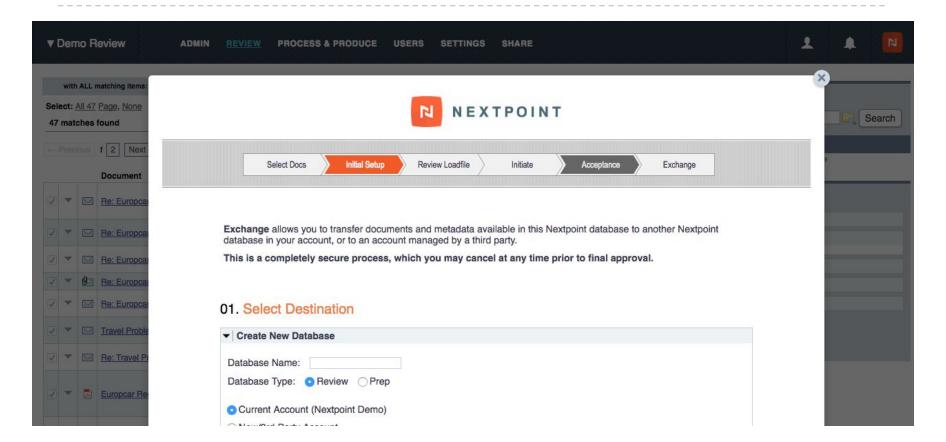
#### Turning your documents into evidence...

- Parse out data from your Relevancy Review database when you're ready to focus on preparing your case.
- Build exhibit folders and lists
- Organize documents in chronological order to find documents that are most critical for use with a witness or when writing your briefs or motions.
- Keep key issues of the case in mind and make notes to how you will use the document when working with your witness.



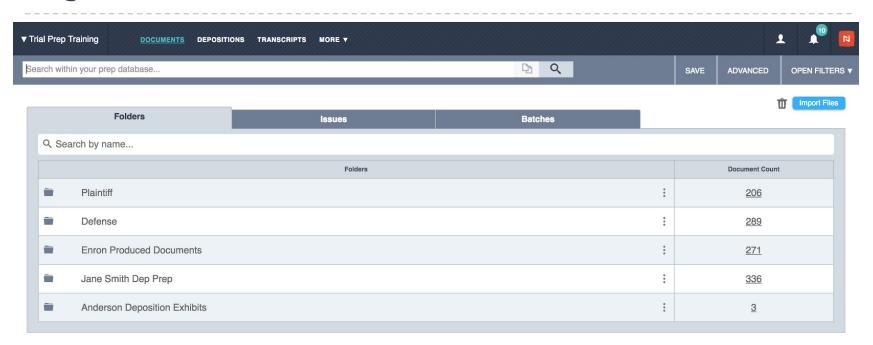


#### Organize Documents: Parse Data from Relevancy Review

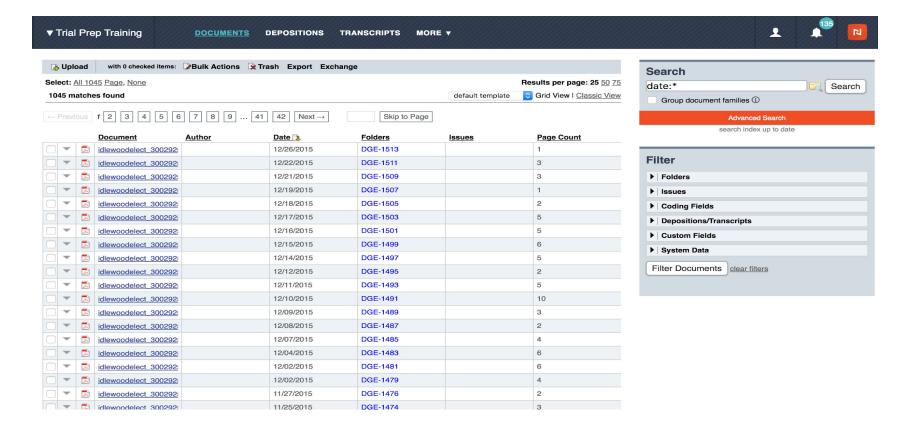




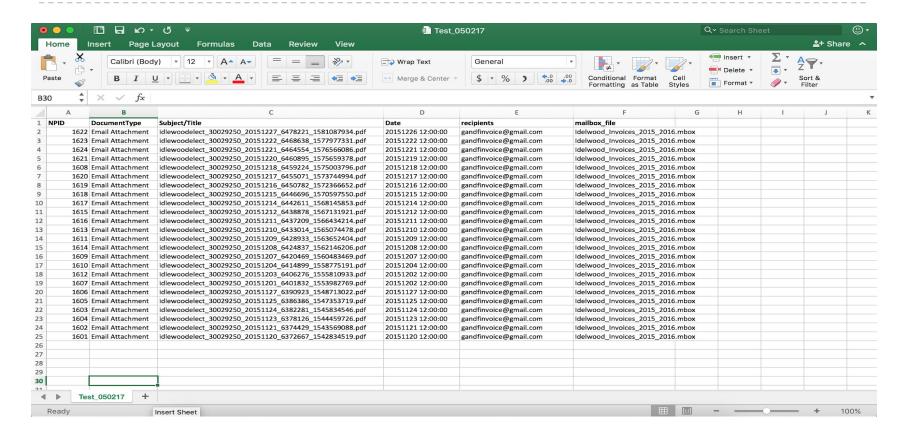
#### Organize Documents: Build Exhibit Folders & Lists



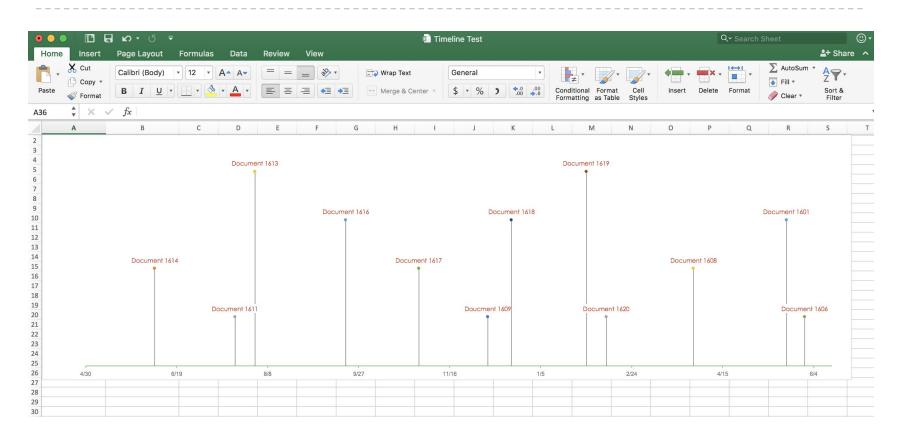
### Organize Documents: Populate Work Product & Metadata



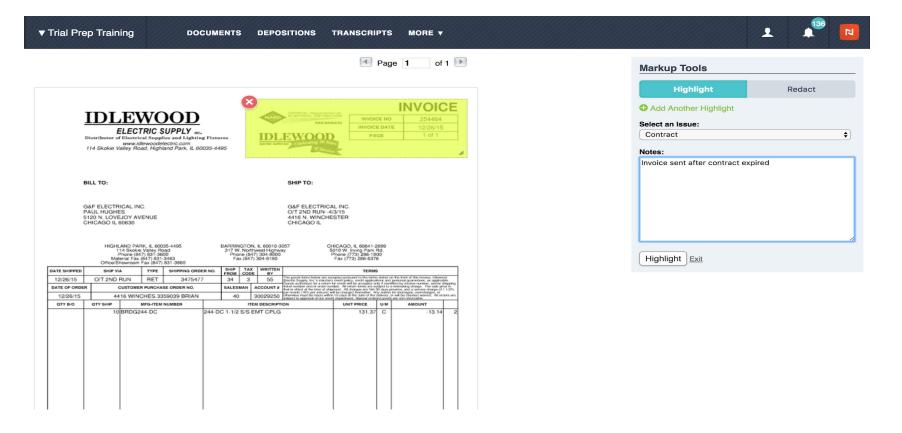
#### Organize Documents: Export As Indexes



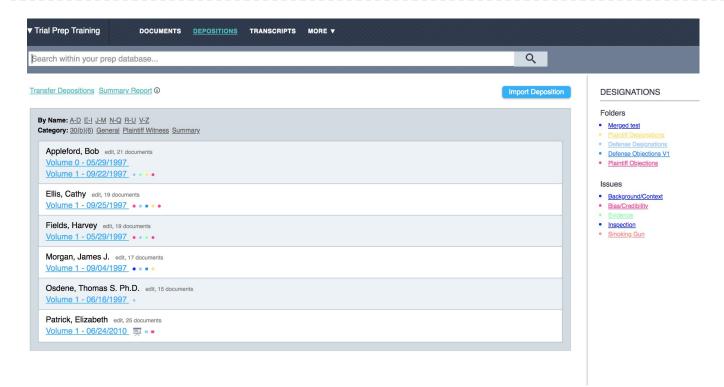
### Organize Documents: Use Chronological Order



## Organize Documents: Keep Key Issues Top of Mind



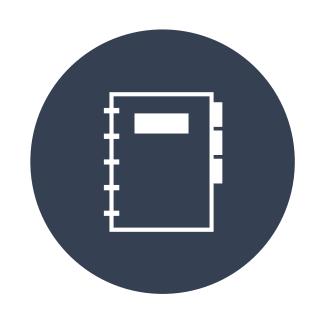
## Organize Depositions: Themes & Issues



#### Witness Prep: Create Electronic Witness Files & Outline

Create issues and tags for organizing your document by witness to start creating an electronic witness file ...

- Utilize the issue tags to create a set of document for a witness file and order them in a specific sequence based on your witness outline.
- Review the documents electronically
- Create witness binders with clean copies for the witness and highlighted copy with notes for your own preparation.



### When to Use Deposition Transcripts and Video

#### Use depositions for situations such as ...

- In lieu of live witness to admit testimony into record
- Impeachment of witnesses, including video impeachment clips for key witnesses
- To compile and identify testimony segments for briefs, outlines and other presentation materials
- Gather testimony across witnesses for use in motion practice
- Or exchange designations with Opposing Counsel



## **Types of Deposition Transcripts and Video**

#### PTX

Transcript Only

#### LEF

Transcript + Linked Exhibits

#### **CMS**

Transcript Synced with Video



## **Case Presentations**

**DEVELOP | DESIGN | DELIVER** 

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## Develop

**DEFINE WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO PRESENT** 

### **Developing the Presentation**

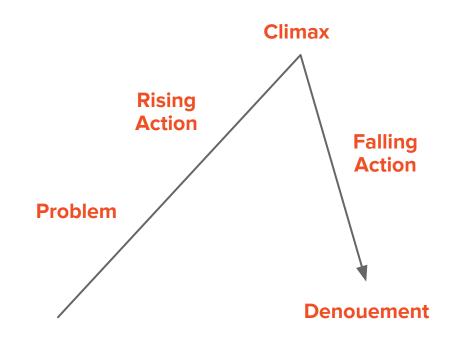






Guide the decision

Command the physical space



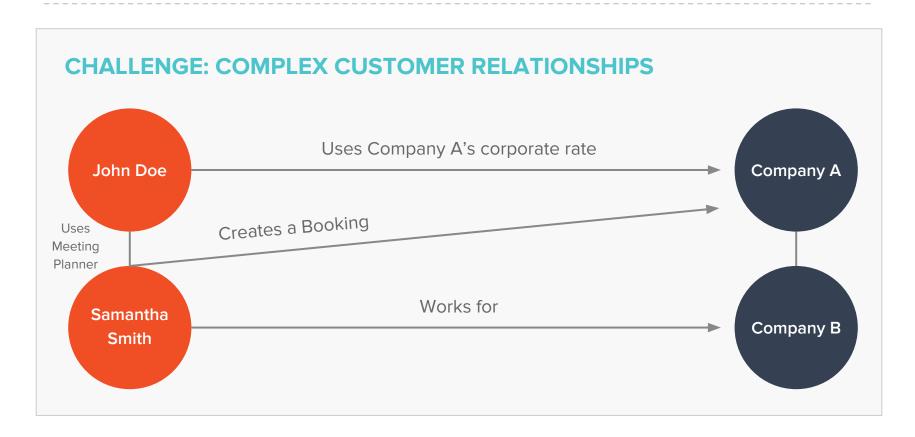
**Settings & Characters** 

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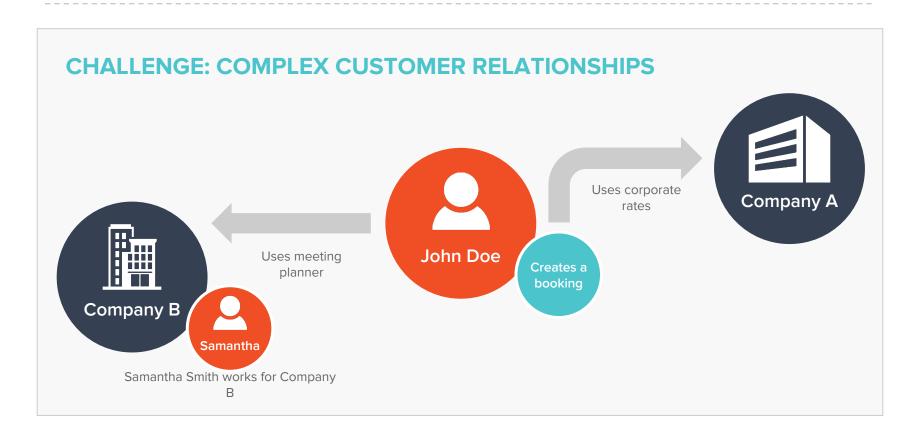
# Design

**KEEP YOUR AUDIENCE INTERESTED** 

## **Example: Weak Information Design**



## **Example: Strong Information Design**



## **Tips for Effective Presentations**



**KEEP IT SIMPLE** 



USE QUALITY IMAGES



MIND YOUR USE OF COLOR



**LIMIT ANIMATION** 

### Keep It Simple

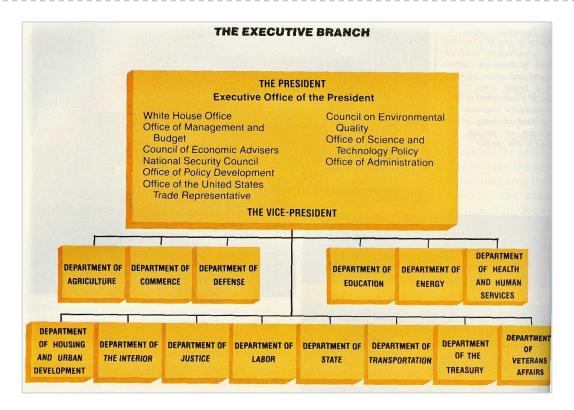


Image source: http://school.cottondew.net/USGovernment/BookScans.html

## Keep It Simple



#### **Limit Bullet Points**

#### THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD

- 1. Ask a question
- 2. Do background research
- 3. Construct a hypothesis
- 4. Test your hypothesis by doing and experiment
- 5. Analyze your data and draw a conclusion
- 6. Communicate your results

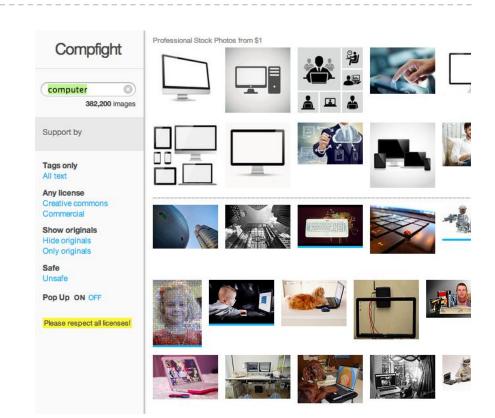
#### **Limit Bullet Points**



## **Use Quality Images**

#### **STOCK IMAGES & PHOTOS**

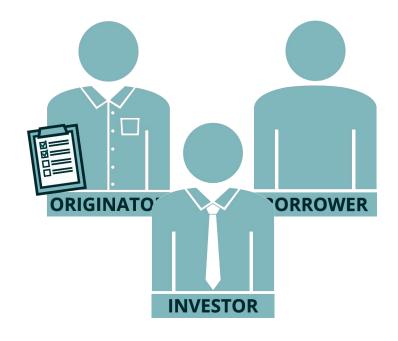
- Avoid Clip Art
- Compfight.com (Pay attention to licenses, some need attribution)
- Google Images
- Photos



## **Use Quality Images**

#### **ICONS**

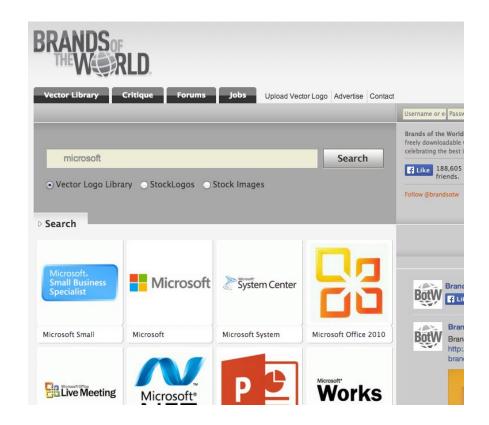
- thenounproject.com
- Buy a membership or use public domain icons for free
- Download and use included PNG file, change color in PowerPoint using "recolor" tool



## **Use Quality Images**

#### **LOGOS**

- brandsoftheworld.com
- Download free EPS files and insert into PowerPoint



#### **Use Appropriate Charts**

#### **WINTER RECORDS** | Most Measurable Snow

2013 - 14: 75.2 inches (as of 12pm 3/5/14)

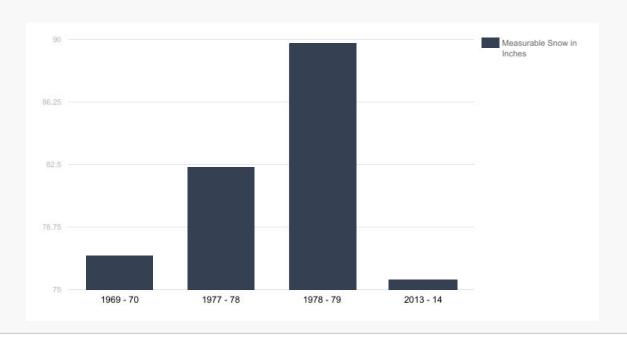
1969 - 70: 77 inches

1977 - 78: 82.3 inches

1978 - 9: 89.7 inches

## **Use Appropriate Charts**

#### **WINTER RECORDS** | Most Measurable Snow



#### Mind Your Use of Color

Use color to highlight the most important idea on a slide

Highlighting more than the most important idea disrupts the slide's visual hierarchy

#### Limit Animation and Movement

Don't be tempted by flashy animations, stick to the classics:



Fade



Appear / Disappear



Wipe



Grow / Shrink



Faded Zoom



Motion Paths





## Deliver

**UTILIZE THE IPAD AND OTHER PRESENTATION TOOLS** 

### **Useful Technology for Presentation**

**SOFTWARE** 









**HARDWARE** 







**PDF HANDLERS** 













### Calling Out Key Information



#### Recap

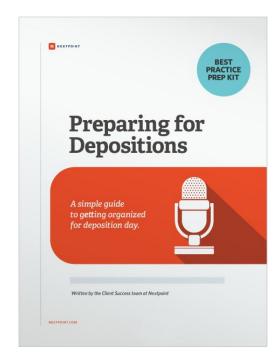
- Identifying the data will become your evidence
- Make a plan for how you will be organizing that evidence
- Best practices for witness preparation
- Creating presentation materials, including creative solutions for presenting your evidence



#### Download: Preparing & Presenting Your Case

#### **INCLUDES:**

- Checklists for scheduling, preliminary
  preparation and lawyer deposition preparation
- Video deposition tips for attorneys
- Available at: <a href="nextpoint.com/depoprep">nextpoint.com/depoprep</a>





# Questions?

#### Witness Prep Tips

- Explain the **attorney-client privilege** to the witness
  - If the witness is not a party or party-related
    witness, the attorney-client privilege won't apply
- Have the witness give an initial recitation of the facts in narrative form.
- Review with the witness the nature and purpose of the proceedings, including courtroom procedure and what to expect in court
- Discuss applicable law
  - Have the witness review all applicable facts



#### Witness Prep Tips

- Review with the witness past depositions, answers to interrogatories, all documentary or demonstrative evidence, and all other material that may be referred to in trial.
- Practice direct examination
- Practice cross-examination
- Consider a full dress rehearsal, perhaps with another attorney playing the part of the opposition (including objections).

