

## Tips for Testifying

1. Dress neatly and conservatively.
2. Avoid chewing gum or biting fingernails.
3. **Always tell the truth.**
4. Take your time when testifying; think carefully about the question before you answer.
5. Answer only the question that you are asked. Do not add information.
6. Never guess when answering a question. If you do not know the answer, say you do not know. If you did not hear the question, or you are not sure that you understood it, ask to have the question repeated or explained.
7. Speak loudly and clearly so that everyone can hear you.
8. If an attorney objects to a question, do not answer it until the judge tells you what to do.
9. Try to be relaxed and calm. It is natural to be anxious when you are on the witness stand. Remember that jurors understand this and want to hear what you have to say.
10. Always be courteous and respectful.
11. **Please note that cell phones must be turned off while in the courtroom.**
12. **Please do not post or comment about your case on any form of social media.**