

USF School of Law

Fall 2020 – First Assignment

Course:

Trial Practice

Professor:

Profs. Robert Arns and Tom Brandi

Course Materials:

Please reference the booklist on the USF Law Registrar's Course Resources [page here](#).

First Assignment:

FIRST ASSIGNMENT:

1. Obtain the required class texts:
 - The Trial Wheel: California, Robert Arns (ThomsonReutersWest-The Rutter Group)
 - The Evidence Wheel: California, Robert Arns (ThomsonReutersWest-The Rutter Group)
2. View the Rutter Group Video Seminar online (see e-mail from Rutter Group, which should be arriving to your school email account in the very near future.) You should budget 3 hours for the video, and make every effort to have The Wheel Books in your hands while you watch this video! The seminar will teach you how The Wheels work, so it will be much more valuable if you can refer to the books while watching. If you added this class late and cannot get the books in time to complete the video before class, please watch the video anyway. NOTE: It is MANDATORY that you watch the video and complete this assignment before the 1st class.
3. Read Closely: The Evidence Wheel Pages 1-15.
4. Self Tests 1-5: The Evidence Wheel Pages 21-24.
5. Read Closely: The Trial Wheel Pages 1-9.

6. Complete Online Student-Juror Questionnaire by midnight Wed. Aug. 26, located at: <https://forms.gle/67MerBUmmPGmhEau8>

Note that this questionnaire contains many of the same questions that jurors have to answer – so now you will know what jurors feel like.

7. Download and read the first two pages of the Class Schedule:
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/vi4zutii9q742ym/TrialPractice.docx?dl=0>

Note that you will be giving a presentation in the first class, but do not worry, you will do a great job. Much of being a trial lawyer is thinking on your feet and overcoming obstacles. As we are all getting used to remote learning, this will present some excellent practice for your future as lawyers!

Additional Notes:

First, we would like to welcome you to the Fall 2020 Trial Practice class! We are trial lawyers and USF Law Grads. We take great pride in being a members of the USF School of Law Adjunct faculty and being able to teach the next generation of great USF trial lawyers. At the end of this class you will be able to take a case to trial and answer any question on the bar exam pertaining to evidence or trial procedure.

We promise that you are going to enjoy this class while learning at a fast pace! If you really want “it,” you will become a trial lawyer in this class.

It is crucial that you complete all the assignments listed below before the 1st class as we hit the ground running – but this will pay dividends later, and you will see how the magic unfolds when you lean these fundamentals!

We recognize there is a lot here, but this will be the foundation upon which the entire semester is built and will make the remainder of the course MUCH easier. If you have any concerns or questions, feel free to call the course assistant Robert Foss at 415-307-5387.

We look forward to meeting you!

Sincerely,
Professors Arns & Brandi