

This is your new

Essential Trial Evidence

***Brought to Life by Famous Trials, Films,
and Fiction***

By Martin A. Schwartz

Professor Emeritus of Law

Essential Trial Evidence provides a clear and comprehensive analysis of the law of evidence. Martin A. Schwartz, Professor Emeritus of Law, enlivens an intricate and technical subject by using evidentiary examples from famous trials, movies, novels, and other media. Through this unique instructive approach, you will quickly gain an understanding of the law of evidence needed to try your case. Furthermore, the popular culture examples are not just for entertainment value. Knowledge of the popular culture of trials is key for trial lawyers to understand the preconceptions and assumptions that jurors bring with them to the trial process.

Essential Trial Evidence focuses on the Federal Rules of Evidence, on which the evidence codes of forty-four states are based, and which is influential in all jurisdictions. The federal evidence rules and their interpretive case law represent the prevailing evidence law in the United States. The text covers all facets of evidence law, including relevance and unfair prejudice, the rule against hearsay and its numerous exceptions, recent developments in expert testimony, cross-examination, the various impeachment methods, and demonstrative evidence. The reader will learn about contemporary issues, such as the differences between expert witness and lay witness testimony, how courts handle the dual fact-expert witness; the procedures for juror questioning of witnesses; admissibility of videotape evidence; developments under the Confrontation Clause; and the requirements for introducing electronic evidence. The book has been substantially revised, expanded, and updated since the first edition, including the addition of invaluable practical and strategic advice, such as guidance for analyzing admissibility issues, how to spot and evaluate hearsay in the heat of trial, and the art of cross-examination.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

MARTIN A. SCHWARTZ is a Professor Emeritus of Law at Touro Law Center, where he taught evidence for nearly thirty years. He chairs the Practising Law Institute’s annual Trial Evidence and Section 1983 Litigation programs, and co-chairs its annual Supreme Court review program. He has been a frequent lecturer on evidence issues, including for the New York Judicial Institute and the New York Office of the Attorney General. He has written a monograph on Section 1983 Litigation for the Federal Judicial Center. Professor Schwartz was managing attorney of the Research and Appeals Bureau of Westchester (NY) Legal Services and argued three cases in that capacity before the U.S. Supreme Court. Publishing widely on civil rights issues, he is the author of a semi-monthly column in the *New York Law Journal* on Section 1983 litigation; author of a multi-volume treatise on Section 1983 civil rights litigation, titled *Section 1983 Litigation: Claims and Defenses* (Wolters Kluwer, 4th ed., 2017); author of *Section 1983 Litigation: Federal Evidence* (Wolters Kluwer, 5th ed., 2017); and co-author of *Section 1983 Litigation: Statutory Attorney’s Fees* (Wolters Kluwer 2017) and *Section 1983 Litigation: Jury Instructions* (Wolters Kluwer 2017).

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