## **CASE PRESENTATION 101**

THE WEEKLY BLOG FOR THE ARBITRATION ADVOCATE

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NEXT WEEK: LET'S BE REAL



This blog is dedicated in the belief that those participating in arbitration empower themselves for success through education. As a 30-year trainer in the arbitration field; the information presented is designed to expand knowledge and skills.

## CIRCUMSPECT ABOUT CIRCUMSTANTIAL How Am I Going To Defeat Your Arb.

Whether it is skid marks in the road complimented by an Adjuster Note that yielded the witness 'sounded' untruthful; we know Circumstantial Evidence can take many forms. More importantly; we know it is the 'totality' of Circumstantial proofs that matter in support of an advocates theory. For me; in overcoming your case ... this is something I hope you do not point to; the 'totality' of your submitted Circumstantial Evidence. Since this Evidence is indirect; if you do not piece it together and show how each proof supports the next; this aids my cause. I'll be looking in your Contentions to see if

you have done that. Also, you assist me by not drawing the causal connection! Overuse of Circumstantial Evidence without 'connecting the dots' can also allow the Arbitrator to draw their own supposition about how the accident happened; perhaps a deduction more in line with my narrative or (maybe) even a conclusion of their own. It is established that some Circumstantial Evidence can be hard to fabricate; partly because it is indirect to begin with. The hope for the advocate is always that the judgment the Arbitrator draws from the skid marks and the Witness' commentary fosters a natural inference based on

their own common sense and real world experiences. The initial inference they attract will then be supported by other Proofs; such as Direct **Evidence and Documentary** exhibits. Again, the advocate is asking the Arbitrator to come to a 'reasonable' conclusion based on the Circumstantial proofs supported by other Evidence and that the 'chain of connectivity' has not been broken. So please for me ... in defeating your case; do not use words like 'totality'; 'reasonable inference'; or the 'causal connection from all the evidence' ... help me by not being 'Circumspect' with vour Circumstantial ~~

Case Presentation 101 is produced by Claims Resource Services; one of the nations top arbitration and subrogation services firms. The writer Kevin Pike can be reached at <a href="mailto:kpike@claimsresource.com">kpike@claimsresource.com</a> and has daily tips on arbitration via Twitter: **@Arb2Win** 

