

The Forensic Expert Witness Association (FEWA) Certification – The Certified Forensic Litigation Consultant (CFLC) Explained

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The Certified Forensic Litigation Consultant (CFLC) is a professional certification awarded to Forensic Expert Witness Association (FEWA) Professional members who met the eligibility criteria established. The criteria require significant participation in FEWA activities and completion of educational courses in the subjects of forensic analysis, litigation consulting and expert witnessing. Recipients shall be certified by FEWA that they are familiar with duties and responsibilities of providing forensic, consulting, and expert witness services in litigated claims in a core program consisting of nine distinct areas of study (the “Core Program”).

Basically, a certified expert should be familiar with much of what they need to know when working in legal matters, and not require so much handholding and prep by the hiring attorney.

Prospects will have taken the prerequisite coursework and have obtained sufficient points as outlined on our application spreadsheet. The requirements include approximately 30 hours of course attendance and 30 hours of participation credits. Most FEWA events, classes, webinars, and other activities have points potential, so it is not too hard to build up the points if one is engaging the opportunities FEWA offers as they come up.

Search “Certification” at www.forensic.org.

Prospects should be proficient in and prepared to take a test on the following topics:

- 1) Ethics
- 2) CV and Resume
- 3) Engagement letters, retainers, billing practices and risk management
- 4) Communications in the legal environment
- 5) Records and evidence handling
- 6) Expert qualifications and methodology
- 7) Expert reports and opinions
- 8) Testimony skills in Trial, Depo and ADR
- 9) Protocols of marketing your practice

Coursework is crafted to expose the candidate to these topics.

Here is a sample exam question:

Domain 3 – Engagement, retainers, billing practices, and risk management

3.04 An expert has received an up-front fee from opposing counsel for appearing in a deposition that is going longer than agreed. What should the expert do to ensure fair payment?

- A. Stop and leave the room at the end of the allotted time without comment.
- B. Continue the deposition and bill the hiring attorney double time for the overrun.
- C. Continue if an agreement can be secured on the record for payment of the overrun.
- D. Advise the parties that you are no longer under oath and only giving lay opinions



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