

PRESENTED AT

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**BEYOND THE ELMO:
INNOVATIVE TOOLS TO SUPPORT YOUR
ELECTRONIC TRIAL PRESENTATION**

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In the years past, a typical scenario for presenting evidence during trial included paper copies of documents for the jury's review and large scale reproductions of exhibits on foam core boards. The go-to appliance in the courtroom often referred to by its brand name "ELMO", connected to a projector and a projection screen, continues to be a viable tool for presenting evidence in the courtroom because no special preparation is necessary for its use. Conversely, it has no special features that other trial presentation tools provide. While the ELMO is included on the list of necessary equipment for the courtroom, it has taken the back seat to a variety of electronic trial presentation tools and consequently primarily used as a backup presentation option.

The innovative tools available to support electronic trial presentation vary in preference depending on the comfort level of the trial team, the end user, the type and size of the case, the evidence to be managed and presented, the venue and the decision makers. In addition, these hardware and software tools of the trade are in a continual state of development for improvement and ultimately make their way into the courtroom mostly by the technology consultants. The tools they select to use are key to the success and overall outcome of presenting evidence during trial.

TRIAL PRESENTATION SOFTWARE

Trial presentation software is increasingly becoming the ideal tool and standard option for managing and presenting evidence to a judge and jury. Designed to handle vast amounts of documentary evidence, the systems are equipped with sophisticated databases that allow document exhibits to be organized, managed, searched and annotated. The entire case is easily packed up at your workstation and unpacked onto a laptop or iPad in the courtroom. Standard features include the ability to create witness and trial workbooks, print exhibits/trial exhibit lists and export documents in PDF format. The primary benefit is the instant random recall of exhibits, as well as the interactive ability to extract, enlarge, highlight and annotate passages of document text. A paramount functionality of trial presentation software is the ability to produce and display digital video deposition testimony that has been edited, linked to exhibits, synchronized to the transcript and displayed as closed captioning with scrolling text. There is a learning curve associated with trial presentation software but the benefits to efficiently manage the evidence and control litigation costs are priceless.

Also available as part of the eCourse

[Ethics: Winning at Trial with Effective Opening Statements, Closing Arguments, Voir Dire and the Use of Technology](#)

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"Beyond the ELMO: Graphics, Models and Much More!"