## WHAT DO YOU MEAN I'M A WITNESS?

35<sup>th</sup> Annual Employment Law Conference May 6, 2022

.

## GOALS FOR THIS CLE

- 1. The General Rule
- 2. The Privilege Protocol
- 3. Special Cases
- 4. Waiver
- 5. The Advocate Rule

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# THE GENERAL RULE

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### THE GENERAL RULE

"[T]here is no blanket immunity that exempts lawyers from being deposed. ..."

*In re Mason & Co. Property Management,* 172 S.W.3d 308, 313 (Tex. App.—Corpus Christi, 2005. orig. proceeding)

"Simple possession of a law license does not result in blanket immunity from a deposition."

Advanced Technology Incubator v. Sharp Corp., 263 F.R.D. 395, 397 (W.D. Tex. 2009)

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### THE GENERAL RULE

"There is no rule that gives an attorney or an attorney's employees a privilege from being called to testify. ..."

*In re Bexar County Criminal Dist. Attorney's Office*, 224 S.W.3d 182, 193-94 (Tex. 2007) (J. Johnson dissenting)

"Except as otherwise provided by Constitution, by statute, by these rules, or by other rules prescribed pursuant to statutory authority, no person has a privilege to ... refuse to be a witness."

Tex. R. Evid. 501

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# THE PRIVILEGE PROTOCOL

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