
Dress & Appearance Tips for Legal Proceedings

* These materials are designed to provide general information regarding legal matters and are not intended to be legal advice. This is distributed with the understanding that the publisher, the author, and the contributors are not engaged in rendering legal or other professional services to the reader. If legal advice or other professional assistance is required, the services of a competent professional person should be sought. The publisher, author, and contributors make no representations or warranties with respect to the accuracy or completeness of the contents of this work and specifically disclaim all warranties, including without limitation warranties of fitness for a particular purpose. No warranty may be created by promotional materials. The advice and strategies contained herein may not be suitable for every situation. The publisher, the author, and the contributors shall not be liable for direct, indirect, or consequential damages arising here from. The views and conclusions expressed are those solely of the author. This publication is not to be construed legal advice and any use of this information will not create an attorney-client relationship. Representation of any claim can only commence after engaging in an initial consultation and execution of a written attorney-client agreement.*

Your appearance is very important. The opposing party, judge and jury's first impression of you will be based on your appearance and your attire.

I. ATTIRE

Please dress in a conservative, business-appropriate manner. Below is a list of appropriate attire for trial.

A. DO

A. WOMAN

- If you wear a dress, it should be no shorter than the bottom touching the top of your knee and no longer than mid-calf.
- Skirt and matching blouse. If you wear a skirt, it should be no shorter than the bottom touching the top of your knee.
- Dress slacks and matching blouse. If you wear dress slacks, they should at least touch your ankles.
- Dress shoes, polished and unscuffed.

B. MAN

- Dress slacks with a collared shirt.
- Dress shoes, polished and unscuffed.

B. DO NOT

- Wear any jewelry. The only jewelry that should be considered is conservative earrings, a watch, a conservative necklace, and/or a wedding ring. However, this jewelry is not necessary.
- Wear jeans, leggings, capris, t-shirts (including any shirts that have printed comments or wording), shorts, tennis shoes, thigh high boots, slippers, or flip flops.

II. APPEARANCE

(Includes hair, makeup, nails, body piercings, tattoos)

A. DO

- Wear hair clean and pulled back out of your face.
- Wear light makeup.
- Have neatly manicured nails, clean, fully polished, or unpolished.
- Remove body piercings, i.e., nose ring, tongue ring, eyebrow ring. If you have your ears pierced more than once, please only wear one pair of earrings.
- Cover all tattoos, either by wearing long pants, long sleeve shirts, or, if you wear a dress or skirt, wear dark colored pantyhose to match.

B. DO NOT

- Have any visible tattoos or body piercings.
- Wear heavy makeup.