



JURY SELECTION

Picking a jury really involves discovering which potential jurors to strike, or get rid of. The goal is to eliminate the potential jurors who are harmful. The State and the Defense have to opportunity to strike.

PARTS OF TRIAL EXPLAINED

Jury selection allows attorneys to question possible jurors to determine the suitability of each for the trial. Both sides can strike potential jurors. Some limitations apply.

The judge will instruct the jury about the law in jury instructions. All jurors hear the same preliminary instructions. The Jury Charge will be given at the end of the evidence. The attorneys along with the defendant will propose and discuss what law jurors will hear based on the particular facts of the case during the Charge Conference.

Opening Statements provide the jury with a description of the facts and circumstances of the case. Each attorney gives their version of events. The State may tell the jury things that the defendant may not like to hear. Understand that it's their theory to prove.

Presenting a case: each side presents witnesses. The other side can cross-examine those witnesses.



MORE EXPLANATION

A Motion for Directed Verdict of Acquittal follows the close of the State's case. The defendant's counsel will argue that the State failed to establish the facts to support the charges in any way. The motion is rarely granted.

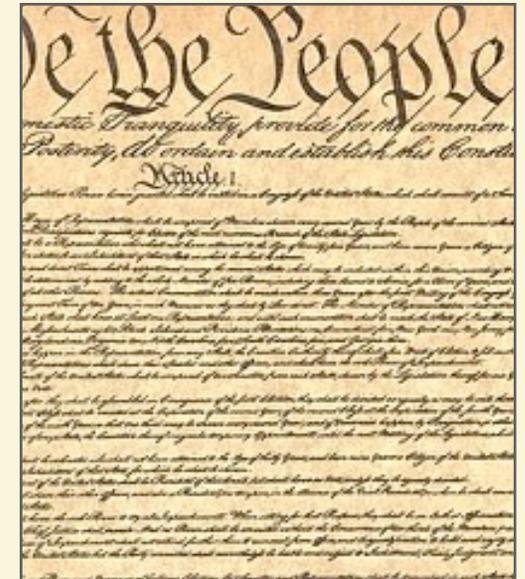
Advising defendant of right to testify. During the course of a trial, the Court will review the defendant's right to testify or not testify. No one will make a defendant testify or stop the defendant from testifying. The defendant has the responsibility to make that decision individually with the advice of counsel.

Closing Argument is the last opportunity to convince the jury about the law and the facts.

NANCEE TOMLINSON, LLC
ATHENS, GEORGIA
706-200-1777

JURY TRIAL

A GUIDE



FROM NANCEE TOMLINSON, LLC

THE BASICS

All citizens carry basic rights under the U.S. Constitution. While the public retains a general familiarity with the topics covered by the Constitution, the specific details of each right become the focus for criminal defendants facing prosecution. The cumbersome criminal justice system requires more detailed explanation for those charged with a crime.