

Evidence Policy

Do you ever refuse to admit evidence even if no one has made an objection to it? Yes
 No

If so, what evidence do you refuse to admit? _____

When an objection is made to hearsay testimony, do you exclude that evidence unless it falls under an exception? Yes
 No

Do you allow photographs to prove damage affidavits to prove damage
 itemized bills prepared in the regular course of business
 medical records (list other types of evidence) _____

Do you observe the rules of evidence more strictly when an attorney is present? Yes No

When only one party is represented, do you make objections on behalf of the other party? Yes
 No

Do you routinely make a statement to attorneys about your evidence policy before beginning trial? Yes No

Sample statement: *As you know, we are about to conduct a trial before the judge without a jury, and one of the parties is not represented, which is frequently true in this court. My policy in such situations is to be lenient in allowing evidence to be offered, so that parties may testify without interruption. At the close of the evidence, I will hear any argument the parties would like to offer concerning evidence that you believe I should not consider. After hearing your argument, I will carefully consider all of the relevant admissible evidence and determine what weight I believe it deserves before arriving at my decision.*

When you announce your judgment, do you sometimes indicate what evidence you did or did not consider? Yes No

When you announce your judgment, do you sometimes indicate how you resolved questions of credibility? Yes No Do you explain why you resolved them in the way you did? Yes
 No