



Trial Coaching

What is it?

Trial coaching is engaging a specialist to help you learn and perfect the practical skills litigators need to advocate effectively, connect with judges and juries, and deliver positive outcomes for their clients.

I'm a veteran of NYC courtrooms as a trial prosecutor. In my ten years as an Assistant District Attorney, I spent nearly every day in a courtroom, grand jury room, or police precinct preparing witnesses, developing case strategy, conducting evidentiary hearings, and litigating cases ranging from assaults and robberies to organized crime, sex crimes, and homicides.

I bring that experience, as well as my time as a television legal analyst, to coaching you through your case. Good coaching produces the kind of results that you can't get from preparing and trying a case on your own. Imagine having an experienced trial litigator, instructor, and coach by your side as you prepare for court to guide your trial strategy, craft your presentation, plan for witness preparation and examination, and help you develop the communications tools you need to be a confident and successful advocate.

Trial advocacy isn't theoretical. It is practical, and you learn by doing. Whether it's your first trial or your tenth or your fiftieth, whether you're in front of a judge or a jury, I can help you develop the trial strategy, themes, and delivery that can enhance your presence and effectiveness as a litigator for the current trial and your continuing litigation practice

Who is it for?

- Attorneys who have upcoming hearings and trials and are fairly new to litigation
- Experienced litigators who want an independent, experienced attorney to help them review and hone their trial strategy and approach
- Litigation practices that want to provide expert and essential advocacy training to associates and new partners without consuming partner time with preparing and presenting that training
- Attorneys who want to learn how to be more impactful, strategic, effective, and confident trial advocates and communicators
- Would-be litigators who want to learn what experienced trial attorneys know and how to put that expertise to use in court and in their overall legal practices

One-on-one coaching is helpful for specific trial preparation; group sessions are intended for newer litigators eager to get a practical foundation for future hearings and trials.



When should you start?

The best time to start is as soon as possible when you begin preparing for an upcoming trial or hearing. If you're facing a crisis situation or an upcoming deadline, coaching can help improve your skills, your presentation content, and get you ready, no matter how much or how little time you have before trial.

Offerings

TRIAL 911

Trial Advocacy and Skills Coaching (Individual 1:1 Coaching)

TRIAL 101

Trial Advocacy and Skills Training (Group)

5 One-hour Sessions for a group of up to 10 (Tailored packages available)

- Session 1: Mastering the Basics: How a trial works and overview of Jury Selection
- Session 2: Trial themes and Trial Strategy: What is the story of your case and how will you tell it?
- Session 3: Openings/Closings
- Session 4: Direct/Cross Exam
- Session 5: Putting it all together

About Laurie Gilbertson

- Tried 45+ first-chair felony jury trials to verdict as an Assistant District Attorney in New York City
- Litigated hundreds of evidentiary hearings and grand jury presentations
- Trained prosecutors at trial and as an in-house trainer as an Assistant District Attorney
- Adjunct Professor, Emory Law School, Kessler-Eidson Program for Trial Techniques
- Instructor, National Institute of Trial Advocacy (NITA)
- Television legal analyst for Court TV and other media channels
- Litigation training specialist at the Practising Law Institute
- Presentation skills, public speaking, and media training coach and speaker at Tribeca Blue Consulting

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