EXERCISE

TIPS FOR WORKING WITH AN EXPERT

Background

Your client is suing a pharmaceutical company for its role in marketing a harmful drug. You need to prove that the drug is harmful, and your team has retained a chemical engineer to explain this to the jury. In your jurisdiction, draft expert reports are discoverable.

You've been assigned as the point of contact for this expert, though you have no experience with chemical engineering or the pharmaceutical industry. A few other associates are going to help with the drafting of the report.

You're meeting with your expert in a few weeks to introduce them to the case and set clear expectations for the work they'll be doing.

Instructions

Come prepared to discuss these questions:

- In preparation for the meeting, what do you need to educate yourself about, and how should you do it?
- What should you go over with the expert at the meeting?
- What kinds of protocols should you set regarding communications between the other associates on the team and the expert (especially given the discovery rules in your jurisdiction)? Why?
- After the meeting, when you send the expert documents to review to form their opinion, should you include documents that are bad for your side? Why or why not?