

RVA

TRIAL LAWYERS

VIRGINIA'S TRIAL LAWYER PODCAST



Direct Examination

They saw "something"
on her mammogram.





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- How do you make the reservations part of your story?

Curvonte Briley and the M-16 that he was convicted of

Curvonte Briley and the M-16 that he was convicted of using in attempting to shoot a rival at a pickup basketball game at the MathScience Innovation Center in Henrico County. Briley twice pulled the trigger but the gun jammed sparing the victim's life, according to testimony.



Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Briley_Brothers

[Briley brothers - Wikipedia](#)

Linwood Earl Briley, James Dyral "J. B." Briley Jr., and Anthony Ray Briley were a sibling trio of serial/spree killers, rapists, and robbers who were responsible for a murder, rape, and robbery spree that took place in Richmond, Virginia, in...

Early lives

The three Briley brothers, Linwood Earl (March 26, 1954 – October 12, 1984), James Dyral Jr. (June 6, 1956 – April 18, ... [See more](#)



First murder

On January 28, 1971, 16-year-old Linwood committed the first killing. While alone at home, Linwood fatally shot Orlin Christian, a 57-year old neighbor, with a rifle from his bedroom window as she was hanging laundry on ... [See more](#)

Murder spree

In 1979, the three Briley brothers and an accomplice, Duncan Eric Meekins, began the seven-month series of random killings that terrified the city and surrounding region. Their first at... [See more](#)

7-38-55

Communicating emotions and feelings?

- 7% - Words
- 38% - Tone
- 55% - Body Language




Answers Lead to Questions





Tag a Label to Your Witness

- “Your son was killed on July 3, 2023”
- “You are the nurse that examined the victim”
- “You are the lead homicide detective”
- “You found your 7-year-old daughter in bed with the Defendant”



Start Your
Questions
with the
Newspaper
Reporters'
Basic Words

- Who, Where, What, When, How, and Why
 - Who did you see?
 - Where did you see her?
 - What was she doing?
 - When was it?
 - How long were you there?
 - Why did you leave?

Guide the Witness

Good Questions →
Good Answers

If you are stiff, then the
witness will be stiff

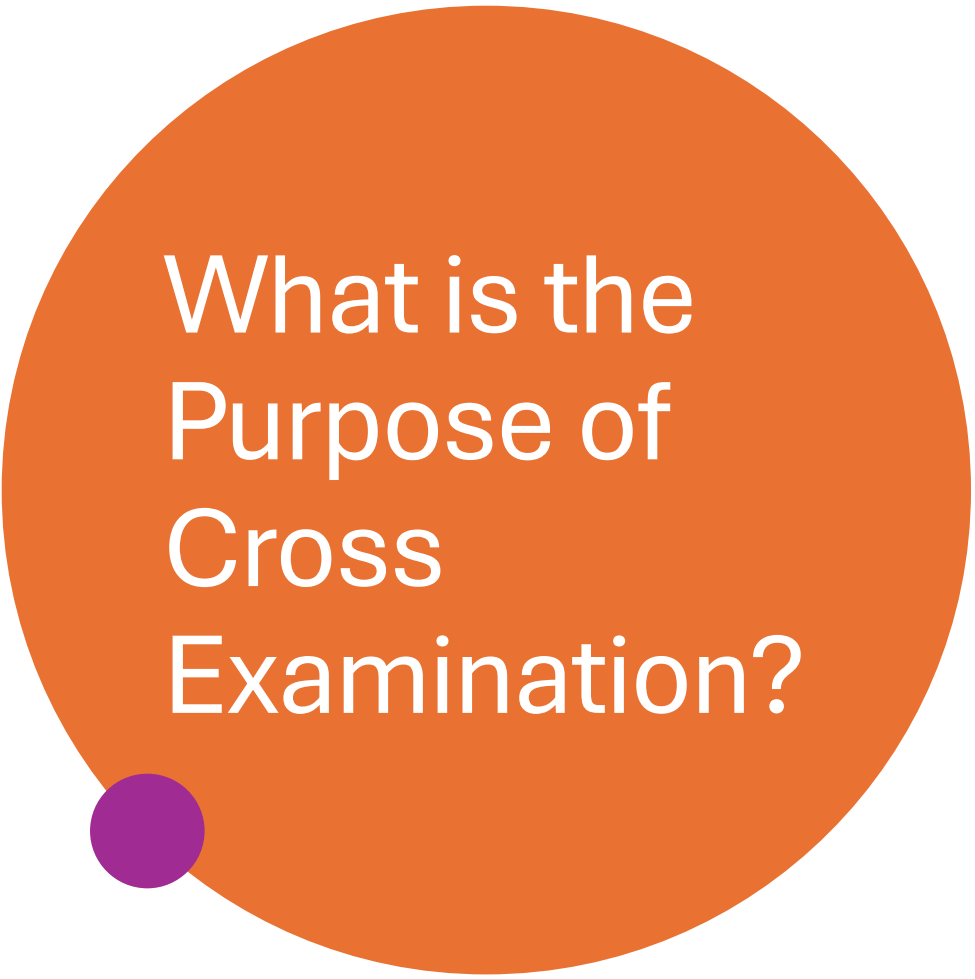
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Cross Examination



What is the Purpose of Cross Examination?

- 
- Expose inconsistencies
 - Reveal bias or interest
 - Elicit favorable information
 - Challenge Knowledge
 - Impeach a witness
 - Make the record



Be Human

Who does the jury connect with?

Look good or better than the witness



Impeachment



What does it mean?



Is it impactful?



Your reputation is on the line

Hitchhiking

1

Support your
theory

2

Spotlight your
theme

3

Avoid
impeachment until
the end

