

MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION FOR JUSTICE MOCK TRIAL/FOCUS GROUP INFORMATION

706 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH · 140 BAKER BUILDING · MINNEAPOLIS · MN · 55402 · PHONE: 612-375-1707

The Minnesota Association for Justice's (MAJ) Mock Trial/Jury Focus Group service is an exclusive service offered to MAJ members in good standing. This high-quality, professional service is unique to MAJ and rarely offered by other bar associations.

MAJ offers a number of options for assessing your case with the public - each option is tailored to the specific needs of your case.

MAJ Mock Trial/Focus Groups can be used to:

- determine problem areas of your case
- tailor legal theories and arguments
- help determine what a jury may award in damages
- resolve attorney/client conflicts about the value of a case
- test specific legal issues and the attitude differentiation between types of jurors:
 - men and women
 - particular geographical areas and,
 - different age groups



“I used this service and was very pleased with the results. It was discouraging, in a sense, to see how the jury looked for ways to blame my client for the crash and to limit her recovery. But it was definitely better to see it in that setting than it would have been to see the results in a trial. I would definitely recommend this to anyone. It is well worth the investment.” –
*Robert Edwards,
MAJ Member*

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Options & Rates

We know that every case presents its own unique circumstances, so we offer three options to choose from so you can pick the option that best meets your needs:

Option One – The Focus Group

Option one is best suited to addressing a specific legal issue in a case. We recommend that members limit the analysis to one legal issue (e.g. causation). This targeted focus group can be used as a mini-trial and includes juror deliberations but is best suited for a moderated discussion format to ascertain participants (jurors) opinions.

Option Two – The Mini-Mock Trial

The Mini-Mock Trial (MMT) is a four-hour mock trial complete with case presentation, closing arguments and rebuttal. The participants (jurors) deliberate and are expected to fill out a prepared Special Verdict form. This option provides MAJ members with a venue to test all aspects of their case.

Option Three – The Mock Trial

The Mock Trial (MT) is a longer format focus group lasting a full day. This option allows more time for opening statements and presentation of evidence, and short closing arguments. The participants (jurors) deliberate and are expected to fill out a prepared Special Verdict form. The MT is ideal for complex cases or when assessing numerous legal issues in a case. This option is only offered on Saturday's when using the MAJ facility. (Please consult MAJ staff for alternative options & locations)



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Rates*

Option	Number of Jurors	Juror Stipend <i>(included in fee for service)</i>	Rate
Focus Group (3 hours)	10 jurors recruited – 6 to 8 participants (one group)	\$75.00	\$2,000.00
Mini-Mock Trial (4 hours)	16 jurors recruited – 12 to 14 participants (two groups)	\$100.00	\$3,500.00
Mock-Trial (8 hours)	16 jurors recruited – 12 to 14 participants (two groups)	\$150.00	\$5,500.00

The MAJ Mock Trial service includes:

- Recruiting & screening of participants (jurors)
- Juror compensation
 - stipend
 - parking reimbursement
- Meal(s) – breakfast, lunch and/or dinner
- Facility*
- High-quality video recording of deliberations
- DVD
- Equipment –
 - laptop
 - LCD projector
 - document camera
 - laser pointer
 - screen
 - easel
 - microphone & speakers

**Please Note: The MAJ Mock Trial/Focus Group service is not limited to the MAJ facility. We offer this service wherever a case is venued or in a similar nearby county. Additional fees may apply in these circumstances. Contact MAJ for more details.*



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Mock Trial/Focus Group Agreement

This Agreement made and executed, by and between The Minnesota Association for Justice hereinafter referred to as "MAJ" and, hereinafter referred to as "Client". The Client agrees and acknowledges:

I. Fees

- a. A deposit in the amount of 25% of the mock trial/focus group will guarantee the service and will be provided by the Client along with a completed Mock Trial/Focus Group Request Form.
- b. If a credit card is provided for payment, the client authorizes MAJ to charge the credit card provided for cancellation fees (see VI. below) if applicable or for full payment of the mock trial/focus group service, plus any additional fees as outlined in the item d., (below) on the date of the mock trial/focus group.
- c. Each participant (juror) recruited will receive the stipend amount included in the fees for MAJ's mock trial/focus group service. The Client may choose to either pay each participant (juror) more or choose to have more participants. This will increase the cost of the service depending on the request of the Client.
- d. Mock trials and focus groups conducted outside of MAJ's facility will incur additional fees included but not limited to: facility/room rental, audio visual services and MAJ staff travel expenses.

II. Reservations

- a. In order to confirm a mock trial/focus group for your case, a fully completed Mock Trial/Focus Group Agreement must be signed and submitted.
- b. In order to fully meet the participant (juror) requirements for each case, MAJ requires that the Mock Trial/Focus Group Request form be submitted approximately six (6) weeks prior to the anticipated mock trial/focus group date.
- c. A final signed copy of the Mock Trial Focus Group Agreement along with a confirmation letter will be sent via US mail and email to Client.

III. Mock Trial/Focus Group Preparation

- a. The Client agrees to provide MAJ a summary of the case including all appropriate facts.
- b. MAJ will provide Client with a draft juror questionnaire for review. It is the Client's responsibility to review the questionnaire, provide feedback and edits or add additional questions before participants (jurors) are recruited.
- c. MAJ will assist members in preparing for their mock trial/focus group; however, the Client is responsible for preparing any presentations, opening/closing arguments, and visuals to be used at the mock trial/Focus group.
- d. The Client is responsible for the development or provision of exhibits, witness list, shortened jury instructions, verdict form, debriefing questions, etc. MAJ staff is available to assist you in preparing any of the aforementioned.

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- e. At times, MAJ works in partnership with the National Jury Project Midwest, which provides trial consultation services. For an additional hourly fee, the National Jury Project Midwest can help you with case analysis and preparation; moderating your mock trial/focus group or assist you in case/juror analysis. Please contact MAJ staff for more information on the National Jury Project.

IV. Restrictions

- a. Client agrees to use the Mock Trial/Focus Group service for assistance on a case and will not use the service to advertise their practice.
- b. Client is responsible for any equipment that is brought in for use in a mock trial/focus group. MAJ staff will not be expected to assist Client in setup or trouble shooting equipment or technology that is brought in for a mock trial/focus group.

V. Hours

- a. Mock trials/focus groups held at the MAJ facility should be scheduled in the evenings during the business week (Monday through Friday) or scheduled on weekends whenever possible.

VI. Cancellations

- a. All cancellations due must be by phone or email.
- b. In the event that the Client cancels the mock trial/focus group reservation, the following cancellation policy will apply:
 - i. The Client agrees to pay 50% of the participant (juror) stipend fee. Stipend amount will vary on agreement or mock trial/focus group option chosen.
 - ii. Client agrees to pay for services rendered up to the time of cancellation. The total due at the time of cancellation may vary and will be determined by MAJ. Services including but not limited to: staff juror recruitment time, consultant reservation, supplies and juror recruitment advertising.
 - iii. If the services rendered up to the time of cancellation are less than or equal to the deposit paid to guarantee the mock trial/focus group service, (outlined in item I.) the member will not be billed.
 - iv. If services rendered total more than the deposit paid, the total amount will be charged to the credit card provided, as outlined in item I. (above) or will be invoiced to the Client. Notice of final total will be sent to Client prior to submitting payment.

VII. Set-Up & Clean-Up

- a. MAJ staff will prepare the facility for your mock trial/focus group for ideal videotaping & observation of participants (jurors).

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Mock Trial/Focus Group Request Form

Contact Information	
MAJ Member Name:	Firm:
Address:	Phone:
	Email:
Mock Trial/Focus Group Information	
Mock Trial/Focus Group Date:	Mock Trial/Focus Group Option: <input type="checkbox"/> Option One – Focus Group (3 hour) <input type="checkbox"/> Option Two – Mini-Mock Trial (4 hour) <input type="checkbox"/> Option Three – Mock Trial (8 hour)
Brief description of case or legal issue for analysis:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Microphone and Sound Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> LCD Projector <input type="checkbox"/> Laptop <input type="checkbox"/> Easel <input type="checkbox"/> Video Camera <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please indicate)	Additional Services & Special Requests:

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Fees & Payment

In order to guarantee the mock trial/focus group, a deposit must be paid. The deposit is 25% of the total for the mock trial/focus group. The final amount for will be due on the day of the mock trial/focus group.

Deposit:	
Mock Trial/Focus Group Fee:	
Additional Fees (if applicable):	
TOTAL	

Payment Method

Credit Card:

V/MC#: - - - Expires:

Name on Card: _____

Billing Zip Code: _____

Check:

Make checks payable to **Minnesota Association for Justice**

Signed Mock Trial/Focus Group Request Form, Agreement, and deposit must be received within 5 business days of mock trial/focus group confirmation. Fax: 612.334.3142. Mailing address: 706 Second Avenue, 140 Baker Building, Minneapolis, MN 55402.

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