

Maryland Defense Counsel (MDC)

2023 Deposition Bootcamp

Date: June 14, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.

Location: Miles and Stockbridge

Participants - 20

Witnesses – Nakea Barksdale (Plaintiff), Karol Silva, Ph.D., M.P.H (John Middlebrooks human factors expert), Sarah Fetcho (Joe Davis – Defendants’ Trucking Expert), and Kristine Martinez (Carl Baxley - Eyewitness – Plaintiff’s witness).

1. Natasha Rostova (Plaintiff) – She is the decedent, Nick Rostova’s, wife and the representative of his Estate.

2. John Middlebrooks (Plaintiff’s Conspicuity Expert) – He is a Ph.D. Human Factors Engineer. His specialty/focus is in the field of Human Perception and Reaction Time (PRT). While he is not an Accident Reconstruction Expert, he frequently works with them and Mechanical Engineers in the forensic analysis of accident causation. Dr. Middlebrooks was asked to conduct a visibility or “Conspicuity” study in this case to determine if Mr. Rostova (decedent) could have seen Mr. Williams’ (Defendant) Jeep in time to execute an avoidance maneuver or braking effort that would have prevented the accident.

3. Joe Davis (Defendants’ Trucking Expert) - Mr. Davis is an experienced truck driver, a CDL instructor, and has served as Operations Manager for several large transport companies. He has over forty years of experience driving tractor trailer rigs and is familiar with the rules and regulations in South Carolina that apply to operation of tractor trailers on the roads and highways of the state. He has also been an insurance claims adjuster for Progressive Insurance Company and The Hartford Insurance Company. He has 20 years of safety training experience as a CDL instructor at Midlands Tech in Columbia, South Carolina. He also has training through Progressive and Hartford in fire investigations.

4. Carl Baxley (Eyewitness – Plaintiff’s witness) – He called 911 to report passing a dark colored Jeep SUV disabled on I-26 at mile marker 169 just past the exit to I-95 to Florence.

Coaches – Amy Askew (Kramon Graham), Peggy Ward (DOWNS WARD BENDER HERZOG & KINTIGH, P.A.), Jennifer Alexander (Mcnamee Hosea, LLP), Chad Joseph (Baxter Baker), David J. McManus (Baxter Baker), and Ben Beasley (Rollins, Smalkin, Richards & Mackie)

12:00 p.m. – 12:45 p.m. Welcoming Remarks and Lunch

12:45 p.m. – 12:50 p.m. Break in order to allow everyone to get to their appropriate room.

****Please note that the student groups will rotate in and out of each room per the above time schedule. The Coaches and Witnesses will stay in their assigned rooms for the duration of the afternoon break-out group program.**

****Each round will have 9 minutes for questions per student and 5 – 10 minutes for feedback from the coaches.**

Room 1:

Coaches – Peggy Ward and Jennifer Alexander

Witness (Natasha Rostova (Plaintiff)) – Nakea Barksdale

Room 2:

Coaches – Amy Askew and Chad Joseph

Witness (John Middlebrooks (Plaintiff’s Conspicuity Expert)) – Karol Silva, Ph.D., M.P.H

Room 3:

Coaches – David J. McManus

Witness (Joe Davis (Defendants’ Trucking Expert)) – Sarah Fetcho

Room 4:

Coaches – Ben Beasley

Witness (Carl Baxley (Eyewitness – Plaintiff’s witness)) - Kristine Martinez

12:50 p.m. – 1:40 p.m.

Room 1 (Group 1) (Natasha Rostova (Plaintiff)) - Students in group 1 play defense counsel and practice deposing Plaintiff.

- **Ryan Allshouse** – Plaintiff’s background, connection with decedent, her company
- **Teresa Azzam** – decedent’s background, work history, and driving experience
- **Stephen Boyer** – the incident (including prior to/leading up to the incident)
- **Casey Brinks** – after the incident, damages, and medical history
- **Adam Cantor** - objections (defending Plaintiff)

Room 2 (Group 2) (John Middlebrooks (Plaintiff’s Conspicuity Expert)) - Students in group 2 play defense counsel and practice deposing Plaintiff’s Conspicuity Expert.

- **Marisa Capone** – Expert’s background, work history, prior experience as an expert, etc.
- **Ryan Carter** – Investigation/study performed (his file)
- **Taylor Deer** – Opinions of expert (The visibility study and perception/reaction time)
- **Brianna Gaddy** – Opinions of expert (Mr. Davis’s time and distance study and final opinions), and the article written by him
- **Rachel Giroux** - objections (defending witness)

Room 3 (Group 3) (Joe Davis (Defendants' Trucking Expert)) - Students in group 3 play defense counsel and practice deposing Defendants' Trucking Expert.

- **Marcus Jones** – Expert's background, work history, prior experience as an expert, etc.
- **Brooke Kasoff** – Examination/investigation/tests performed
- **Stephanie Mathioudakis** – Examination/investigation/tests performed and Opinions
- **Busola Olanrewaju** – Opinions
- **Jiah Park** - objections (defending witness)

Room 4 (Group 4) (Carl Baxley (Eyewitness – Plaintiff's witness)) - Students in group 4 play defense counsel and practice deposing Mr. Baxley.

- **George Rice** – Background
- **Paulina Taniewski** – Recollections regarding what occurred on the day of the incident
- **John Thompson** – Conversation with Highway Patrolman/ 911
- **Victoria Thornton** – The highway itself (description of the highway, how many lanes, prior incidents on it, etc.)
- **Andrew Walls** - objections (defending witness)

1:40 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.

Break

1:50 p.m. – 2:40 p.m.

Room 1 - Students in group 2 play defense counsel and practice deposing Plaintiff.

- **Ryan Carter** – Plaintiff's background, connection with decedent, her company
- **Taylor Deer** – decedent's background, work history, and driving experience
- **Brianna Gaddy** – the incident (including prior to/leading up to the incident)
- **Rachel Giroux** – after the incident, damages, and medical history
- **Marisa Capone** - objections (defending Plaintiff)

Room 2 - Students in group 3 play defense counsel and practice deposing Plaintiff's Conspicuity Expert.

- **Brooke Kasoff** – Expert's background, work history, prior experience as an expert, etc.

- **Stephanie Mathioudakis** – Investigation/study performed (his file)
- **Busola Olanrewaju** – Opinions of expert (The visibility study and perception/reaction time)
- **Jiah Park** – Opinions of expert (Mr. Davis’s time and distance study and final opinions), and the article written by him
- **Marcus Jones** - objections (defending witness)

Room 3 - Students in group 4 play defense counsel and practice deposing Defendants’ Trucking Expert.

- **Paulina Taniewski** – Expert’s background, work history, prior experience as an expert, etc.
- **John Thompson** – Examination/investigation/tests performed
- **Victoria Thornton** – Examination/investigation/tests performed and Opinions
- **Andrew Walls** – Opinions
- **George Rice** - objections (defending witness)

Room 4 - Students in group 1 play defense counsel and practice deposing Mr. Baxley.

- **Teresa Azzam** – Background
- **Stephen Boyer** – Recollections regarding what occurred on the day of the incident
- **Casey Brinks** – Conversation with Highway Patrolman/911
- **Adam Cantor** – The highway itself (description of the highway, how many lanes, prior incidents on it, etc.)
- **Ryan Allshouse**- objections (defending witness)

2:40 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

Break

2:50 p.m. – 3:40 p.m.

Room 1 - Students in group 3 play defense counsel and practice deposing Plaintiff.

- **Stephanie Mathioudakis** – Plaintiff’s background, connection with decedent, her company
- **Busola Olanrewaju** – decedent’s background, work history, and driving experience
- **Jiah Park** – the incident (including prior to/leading up to the incident)
- **Marcus Jones** – after the incident, damages, and medical history

- **Brooke Kasoff** - objections (defending Plaintiff)

Room 2 - Students in group 4 play defense counsel and practice deposing Plaintiff's Conspicuity Expert.

- **John Thompson** – Expert's background, work history, prior experience as an expert, etc.
- **Victoria Thornton** – Investigation/study performed (his file)
- **Andrew Walls** – Opinions of expert (The visibility study and perception/reaction time)
- **George Rice** – Opinions of expert (Mr. Davis's time and distance study and final opinions), and the article written by him
- **Paulina Taniewski** - objections (defending witness)

Room 3- Students in group 1 play defense counsel and practice deposing Defendants' Trucking Expert.

- **Stephen Boyer** – Expert's background, work history, prior experience as an expert, etc.
- **Casey Brinks** – Examination/investigation/tests performed
- **Adam Cantor** – Examination/investigation/tests performed and Opinions
- **Ryan Allshouse** – Opinions
- **Teresa Azzam**- objections (defending witness)

Room 4- Students in group 2 play defense counsel and practice deposing Mr. Baxley.

- **Taylor Deer** – Background
- **Brianna Gaddy** – Recollections regarding what occurred on the day of the incident
- **Rachel Giroux** – Conversation with Highway Patrolman/911
- **Marisa Capone** – The highway itself (description of the highway, how many lanes, prior incidents on it, etc.)
- **Ryan Carter**- objections (defending witness)

3:40 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Break

3:50 p.m. – 4:40 p.m.

Room 1- Students in group 4 play defense counsel and practice deposing Plaintiff.

- **Victoria Thornton** – Plaintiff's background, connection with decedent, her company

- **Andrew Walls** – decedent’s background, work history, and driving experience
- **George Rice** – the incident (including prior to/leading up to the incident)
- **Paulina Taniewski** – after the incident, damages, and medical history
- **John Thompson** - objections (defending Plaintiff)

Room 2 - Students in group 1 play defense counsel and practice deposing Plaintiff’s Conspicuity Expert.

- **Casey Brinks** – Expert’s background, work history, prior experience as an expert, etc.
- **Adam Cantor** – Investigation/study performed (his file)
- **Ryan Allshouse** – Opinions of expert (The visibility study and perception/reaction time)
- **Teresa Azzam** – Opinions of expert (Mr. Davis’s time and distance study and final opinions), and the article written by him
- **Stephen Boyer** - objections (defending witness)

Room 3 - Students in group 2 play defense counsel and practice deposing Defendants’ Trucking Expert.

- **Brianna Gaddy** – Expert’s background, work history, prior experience as an expert, etc.
- **Rachel Giroux** – Examination/investigation/tests performed
- **Marisa Capone** – Examination/investigation/tests performed and Opinions
- **Ryan Carter** – Opinions
- **Taylor Deer**- objections (defending witness)

Room 4 - Students in group 3 play defense counsel and practice deposing Mr. Baxley.

- **Busola Olanrewaju** – Background
- **Jiah Park** – Recollections regarding what occurred on the day of the incident
- **Marcus Jones** – Conversation with Highway Patrolman/911
- **Brooke Kasoff** – The highway itself (description of the highway, how many lanes, prior incidents on it, etc.)
- **Stephanie Mathioudakis**- objections (defending witness)

4:40 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Wrap-up/Closing Remarks

4:45 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Social Hour