

By: Keith A. Langley

TRIALS IN TRYING TIMES



On the video panel, Joey appears in his truck at a construction site in his construction work clothes. With a hard hat and a southern drawl Joey explains his background in a relaxed, pleasing manner. He presents as very knowledgeable about fire alarms and approvals. Joey states that, as a commissioning agent he wanted to work with the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) to get approval for the fire alarm system, a key life safety component. Joey as witness could hardly have done better in person at the hearing and effectively rebutted a charge of “interference”.

Video was very effective and the laptop in the truck was not only sufficient but his credibility was extremely effective because of his appearance at the jobsite, with construction clothes on, clearly testifying while taking a break from his work activities.



Texas • Florida
Oklahoma • Arkansas

Dallas

P.O. Box 94075
Southlake, Texas 76092
(214) 722-7160

Miami

1200 Brickell Avenue
Suite 1950
Miami, Florida 33131
(305) 961-1691

info@l-llp.com

www.langley.law

To "Go Green", our firm uses recyclable paper or ceramic cups and no longer uses Styrofoam cups. In addition, we have adopted a less-paper office environment.

We hope that these changes make big differences in the future.

Well done is better than well said.

- Benjamin Franklin



Hearings and even trials can be virtual.

The chairperson of a three-person arbitration panel may at times appear virtually.

A global pandemic presents trying times. Trials in such times have to adjust.

Challenges are presented by virtual appearance of the witness and virtual appearance of the decision-makers and as always all items deserve consideration and practice to be effective.

Understandably trials are very difficult for all involved. We work to make the process effective and efficient. With our experience and proper communication we work to make the process understandable to all involved including witnesses.

Keith A. Langley is a Partner at Langley LLP and may be contacted at klangley@l-llp.com.

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