

A TEACHING RESOURCE FOR PSYCHIATRY RESIDENTS

VIEW FROM THE JURY BOX:

Clark v. Stover

A Psychiatric Malpractice Mock Trial

The Litigation Process

Closing Statements

The closing statement is a summation of the evidence that has been presented and the relationship of the evidence to the issues in the case. The attorneys for each side will also summarize the evidence presented by the opposing side and how they think the other side has failed to establish its case.

Contrary to the view created by movies and television, trials are not won by dramatic closing arguments. Thorough pre-trial preparation and the effective presentation of witnesses and exhibits at trial win a lawsuit.

RISK MANAGEMENT TIP

Effective risk management techniques, such as proper documentation, good communications with patients and colleagues, and meeting the standard of care, provide the basis for evidence that will support a defense in the event of a professional malpractice lawsuit.

