

Preparing for Trial

As a DOAR expert, you may have opportunities to introduce trial teams to the broader jury and trial consulting capabilities available through DOAR. Understanding these services can help you recognize when a client team may benefit from additional support and bring DOAR into the conversation.

Expert analysis often intersects with broader litigation strategy and trial preparation. In some matters, the same technical issues addressed through an expert's work may also inform case themes, demonstratives, witness preparation, jury research, and courtroom presentation. Familiarity with DOAR's capabilities can help you identify where additional resources may complement the work already underway.

Because experts often have a valuable perspective on the technical record and the needs of the trial team, you may be well positioned to recognize these opportunities. When you do, we encourage you to connect DOAR with the client team so we can discuss their needs directly and determine how our jury and trial consulting services may help.

Building a Foundation and Roadmap for a Successful Strategy

Building a strong litigation strategy requires more than experience and intuition. Through research, testing, and consulting services, DOAR provides the insights legal teams need to evaluate critical issues, refine their approach, and make more informed strategic decisions.

FOCUS GROUPS

Focus groups are often the first step in the jury research process, providing empirical feedback from a representative sample of the jury pool. By testing case themes, arguments, and evidence, and analyzing participant responses and group deliberations, we identify the messages most likely to resonate with jurors and influence decision-making.

SIMULATED PRE-TRIAL HEARINGS

Markman, Class Certification, and Summary Judgment

Critical cases are often shaped by pre-trial rulings. DOAR's simulated hearings help legal teams evaluate the likelihood of success, refine arguments, and assess settlement positions. Retired judges review presentations, provide feedback through questionnaires and interviews, and participate in roundtable discussions that offer practical insight into judicial decision-making.

MOCK ARBITRATION

Arbitrators, like jurors and judges, bring individual perspectives and decision-making styles to every case. DOAR's mock arbitrations allow legal teams to observe how experienced arbitrators evaluate evidence, testimony, and arguments. Combined with custom research and participant feedback, these exercises help validate strategy, identify vulnerabilities, and refine hearing presentations.

WITNESS TESTING

DOAR's witness testing evaluates how jurors, judges, or arbitrators may perceive a witness and their testimony. Research participants assess credibility, communication style, effectiveness under questioning, and the ability to explain complex issues. Testing may also involve retired judges evaluating expert testimony, admissibility concerns, and potential Daubert challenges.

WITNESS PREPARATION

Effective testimony requires more than subject-matter expertise. DOAR prepares witnesses for depositions, hearings, arbitrations, and trials through individualized coaching tailored to the demands of direct and cross-examination. Preparation may include video-based practice, presentation coaching, and guidance on credibility, communication style, and the effective use of demonstratives.

MOCK TRIALS

Jury and Judge

DOAR's mock trials closely replicate courtroom proceedings, allowing legal teams to test and refine case strategy before trial. Attorneys present evidence and arguments to mock jurors, who deliberate to a verdict. Our consultants analyze participant reactions, deliberation dynamics, and key decision drivers. Mock bench trials provide comparable insight from retired judges.

SURVEYS

DOAR's online surveys gather feedback from larger pools of jury-eligible participants to test case issues, arguments, and themes. Surveys can also measure attitudes toward industries, cultural issues, and other factors that may influence decision-making. Findings help inform jury selection, settlement evaluations, and overall litigation strategy at every stage.

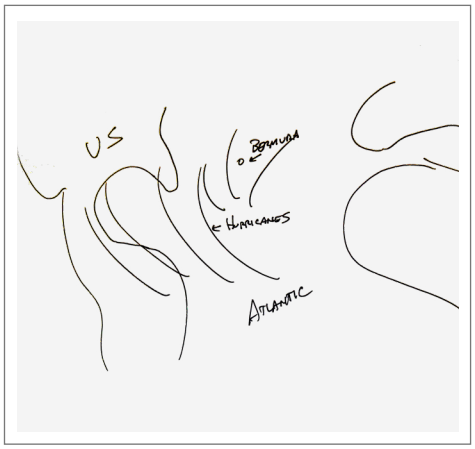
JURY SELECTION

DOAR applies insights from pre-trial research and juror decision-making to support informed jury selection. During voir dire, our consultants evaluate prospective jurors' experiences, attitudes, and perspectives that may affect their views of the case. When appropriate, real-time online research provides additional information to help guide selection decisions and challenges.

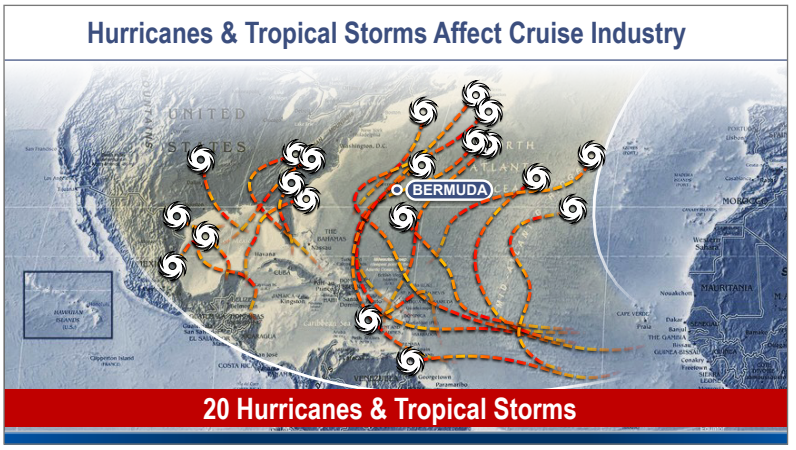
GRAPHICS CONSULTING AND DESIGN

DOAR develops visual strategies and demonstratives that help legal teams communicate complex information clearly and persuasively. Our process combines case documents, transcripts, expert analysis, legal strategy, and jury research insights to develop effective visual concepts. We design graphics to clarify key issues and support case presentation, whether during jury research, in expert reports, or at trial.

Original Concept



Final Demonstrative



> Developed to support expert testimony, this demonstrative transformed an initial hand-drawn concept into a clear visual showing hurricane and tropical storm activity across key cruise routes and destinations. The final map illustrates the concentration and reach of the storms, helping show that the resulting losses reflected a widespread disruption rather than an isolated operational issue.

TRIAL PRESENTATION AND TECHNOLOGY

DOAR's trial presentation consultants, often referred to as "hot seat" consultants, provide real-time evidence management and courtroom technology support throughout trials, hearings, and arbitrations. Working closely with legal teams, they anticipate evidentiary needs, facilitate seamless presentations, and help ensure key arguments and exhibits are delivered clearly and effectively.

Working Together

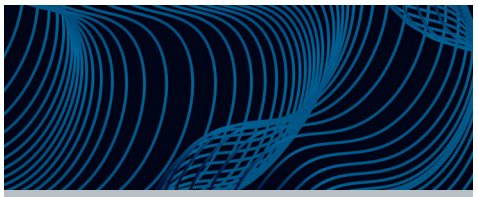
As an affiliate expert, you are part of a broader relationship in which DOAR seeks to support your work, strengthen client service, and identify opportunities where our capabilities may help the legal team address complex case needs.

In addition to the graphics and preparation services that clients may engage DOAR to provide in connection with your work, DOAR offers a broader range of jury and trial consulting services designed to support experts and clients throughout the life of a case. Understanding these capabilities can help you recognize opportunities where DOAR may add value to the trial teams you work with.

When an opportunity arises, we encourage you to bring DOAR into the conversation. Our team can work directly with the client to understand their needs and determine where our jury and trial consulting capabilities may be helpful. By making that connection, you can introduce clients to additional resources that complement the work already underway and help them prepare for the demands of trial.

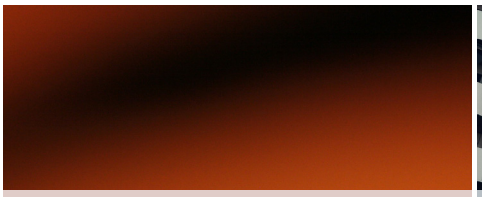
THREE PERSPECTIVES. ONE CLEAR DIRECTION.

The strongest case strategies emerge when expert insight, client objectives and DOAR's strategic expertise work together.



EXPERTS

Specialty insight that advances your position.



DOAR

Strategic integration to turn insight into advantage.



CLIENTS

Case knowledge and objectives that guide strategy.

WINNING STRATEGY

Insight in context. Strategy in focus. Better outcomes.