

OPINE EXPERTS

How Opine works with Attorneys

In General – Opine Provides Experts for Disputes involving California Real Estate

- Opine matches attorneys with real estate experts possessing specialized knowledge in various aspects of property ownership, development and management.
- Expertise relating to all issues, whether they involve bricks & mortar, financial, transactional, landlord-tenant, premises liability, standard of care, operational, environmental or regulatory matters, is available.

Expert Selection

The matchmaking process begins on one of two routes: Attorneys will either find the expert they need at opinexperts.com or enlist its co-founder William Lightner, Esq. to personally search for the right consultant. Either way, the attorney is provided an appropriate candidate's resume, rate information and a telephone interview with the candidate. Given Mr. Lightner's legal training, real estate experience and network, it usually takes less than a week for him to pre-screen candidates and present one or more for consideration. When Mr. Lightner has conducted a personalized search, he usually participates in the interview so that he may gain valuable feedback from the client. There is no fee for the search service.

Fees & Engagement Process

Attorneys enter into an Engagement Letter Agreement with Opine Experts, which acts as an agent on behalf of the Expert Consultant. Experts bill hourly against a minimum fee. The minimum fee generally runs \$3,000. Opine charges no separate fee for expert search services. A conflicts check and engagement letter must be completed and the Minimum Fee and Deposit collected before a client-attorney may disclose or otherwise make use of Opine Expert's or the expert's name. With Opine's administrative backup, attorneys and experts then work directly with each other as they proceed through property inspections, case analysis, documentary review, deposition and trial or when appropriate, mediation and arbitration.

Administrative Support

Throughout the process, Opine Experts provides a complete administrative support system for its clients and experts, including free access to Opine's "Central Desktop" Internet-based virtual workspace. Central Desktop provides a password-secured electronic depository where attorneys are invited to upload lengthy documents for review by all case consultants at no charge. Central Desktop also provides communications and scheduling support. Opine's staff is available for personal assistance as well. Client billings and disbursements of expert compensation are handled by Opine, which provides invoicing and transparent reporting.

Opine's principals are available to assist with case analysis, deposition and trial preparation, providing role playing & rehearsal sessions if requested. Research, graphic evidence production and other litigation support services are available as well.

Contact

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