

# Expert Witness Testimony

Dr Syed Naqvi

[syed.naqvi@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:syed.naqvi@bcu.ac.uk)



# Outline

- Introduction
- Personal testimony
- Equipment
- Personal skills

# Some basics ...

- Forensics investigation report
  - Provides statement of findings
- Expert report
  - Provides an opinion
- Expert witness
  - Provides insight that common sense does not offer
    - Conclusions are drawn

# Personal testimony

- Well prepared
  - Equipment
    - Computers
    - Projector
    - Mobile Internet connection
    - Encrypted containers
    - Power extensions
  - Folders
    - All case related documents
- Personal appearance

# Equipment

- Dedicated or specifically prepared PCs
- Only required software installed
- No pirated or cracked version
- Without instant messaging or other disruptive apps
- Adaptors if proceedings are in a different country
- Fully charged batteries

# Presentation skills

- Eye contacts
- Linguistic fluency
  - Use interpretation service if it is not in your native language
- Pitch and tone
- Coherent flow of the presentation contents
- No irrelevant comment/observation
  - Jokes, mockery, ...
  - Know the sensitivities

# Listening skills

- Be ready for a variety of questions
  - Prepare extra slides/documents as back-up
  - Provide accurate response instead of making guesses
  - Be honest to pass a question if it is not from your area of expertise
- Be prepared for being asked to show any feature/  
functionality of analysis software
  - Don't ask whether the person is able to understand the technical feature!

## And when it is done ...

- Thank the jury members for their attention and valuable questions
- Properly powered off the equipment without any hassle
  - Dismounting encrypted containers
- Dismantle/unmounts ALL the equipment and their accessories
  - Use a check-list
- Take due care for transporting back the equipment securely.