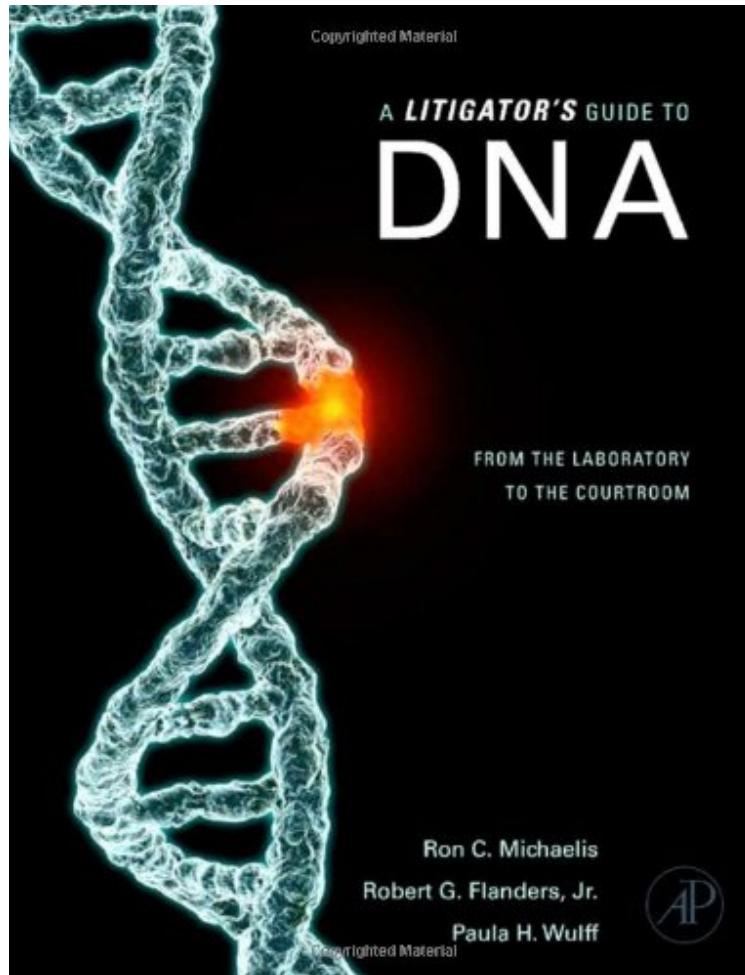


[Pdf free] A Litigator's Guide to DNA: From the Laboratory to the Courtroom

A Litigator's Guide to DNA: From the Laboratory to the Courtroom

Ron C. Michaelis, Robert G. Flanders Jr., Paula Wulff
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Ron C. Michaelis, Robert G. Flanders Jr., Paula Wulff : A Litigator's Guide to DNA: From the Laboratory to the Courtroom before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Litigator's Guide to DNA: From the Laboratory to the Courtroom:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Perfect...By Robert DentonThis book is where any litigant or judge should start before dealing with DNA evidence in a courtroom.The authors all hail from either science or legal backgrounds. Therefore, this book has a synthesis of the scientific information of DNA combined with the technical evidentiary structures of the legal system that no other book presents. There are many books on DNA, however other than this book, few - if any are able to explain how DNA evidence is utilized in a practical manner in trial. After all, every trial attorney knows that it is not just the evidence you have in a case that matters, but rather how you present it

and whether or not the jury understands it and believes it. This book is organized by chapter focusing on one subject at a time. The earlier chapters deal with preliminary matters and foundational scientific issues. This means you do not have to have a scientific background to grasp the full meaning of the content of the book. However, if you do have a scientific background, you do not need to read the earlier chapters. This is nice since in the legal field, time truly is money. The authors make sure to cover the mathematical areas, the scientific areas, and the legal considerations of using DNA in a trial. If you need another reason to purchase this book, consider this. If you are not comfortable with the concepts your expert witness is going to testify about then you are most likely going to ask questions improperly which will result in less than stellar testimony. Furthermore, if you do not understand the subject matter well enough, then you will not even realize when the opposition is asking questions improperly or is confusing issues that need rehabilitation on re-examination. If you do not know the subject matter well enough, you simply could miss important objections. Additionally, if you are the Judge in the case, you could make an improper ruling if you had not prepared for the subject matter. I found that after reading this book and refreshing myself with it whenever necessary, I was not a full blown expert on the subject of DNA. However, I was armed with enough knowledge to speak with my expert intelligently, maneuver the trial well, and explain a confusing subject to the jury. If it wasn't clear before, I would suggest this book. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Cross-examination of the FBI Forensic Expert By bplaw Involved in a Federal Kidnapping case where a key witness was an FBI DNA Forensic Expert from the FBI Crime Lab. This book together with multiple viewings of a NACDL seminar video enabled me to put together and understand a very thorough cross-examination. The book is well written, simple enough for an "old lawyer" to grasp new concepts. It was detailed enough to provide a basis for a very effective cross. It is well worth the money if you are confronting a DNA expert. I highly recommend it and it will definitely remain in my library.

A Litigator's Guide to DNA educates both criminal law students and forensic science students about all aspects of the use of DNA evidence in criminal and civil trials. It includes discussions of the molecular biological basis for the tests, essential laboratory practices, probability theory and mathematical calculations, and issues relevant to the prosecution and the defense, and to the judge and jury hearing the case. The authors provide a full background on both the molecular biology and the mathematical theory behind forensic tests, describing the molecular biological process in simple mechanical terms that are familiar to everyone, and periodically emphasizing the practical, take-home messages the student truly needs to understand. Pedagogical elements such as Recapping the Main Point boxes and valuable ancillary material (Instructors' Manual, PowerPoint slides) make this an ideal text for professors. "Recapping the Main Point" boxes provide a simple and concise summary of the main points. Includes a glossary of essential terms and their definitions. Contains a full-color insert with illustrations that emphasize key concepts.