

# **New Jersey Rules of Evidence**

## **Article VII - Opinions and Expert Testimony**

### **N.J.R.E. 701. Opinion Testimony of Lay Witnesses**

If a witness is not testifying as an expert, the witness' testimony in the form of opinions or inferences may be admitted if it (a) is rationally based on the perception of the witness and (b) will assist in understanding the witness' testimony or in determining a fact in issue.

**NOTE:** Adopted September 15, 1992 to be effective July 1, 1993.

### **N.J.R.E. 702. Testimony by Experts**

If scientific, technical, or other specialized knowledge will assist the trier of fact to understand the evidence or to determine a fact in issue, a witness qualified as an expert by knowledge, skill, experience, training, or education may testify thereto in the form of an opinion or otherwise.

**NOTE:** Adopted September 15, 1992 to be effective July 1, 1993.

### **N.J.R.E. 703. Bases of Opinion Testimony by Experts**

The facts or data in the particular case upon which an expert bases an opinion or inference may be those perceived by or made known to the expert at or before the hearing. If of a type reasonably relied upon by experts in the particular field in forming opinions or inferences upon the subject, the facts or data need not be admissible in evidence.

**NOTE:** Adopted September 15, 1992 to be effective July 1, 1993.

### **N.J.R.E. 704. Opinion on Ultimate Issue**

Testimony in the form of an opinion or inference otherwise admissible is not objectionable because it embraces an ultimate issue to be decided by the trier of fact.

**NOTE:** Adopted September 15, 1992 to be effective July 1, 1993.

## **N.J.R.E. 705. Disclosure of Facts or Data Underlying Expert Opinion; Hypotheses Not Necessary**

The expert may testify in terms of opinion or inference and give reasons therefor without prior disclosure of the underlying facts or data, unless the court requires otherwise. The expert may in any event be required to disclose the underlying facts or data on cross-examination. Questions calling for the opinion of an expert witness need not be hypothetical in form unless in the judge's discretion it is so required.

**NOTE:** Adopted September 15, 1992 to be effective July 15, 1993; amended September 15, 2004 to be effective July 1, 2005.

## **N.J.R.E. 706. Court Appointed Experts [Not Adopted]**