

To qualify in court as an expert, a witness must be competent in the subject matter. They may be qualified through knowledge, skill, practical experience, training, education, or a combination of these factors. Minimally, the expert witness must know underlying methodology and procedures employed and relied upon as a basis for the opinion. The background knowledge includes state of art technology, literature review, and experience culminating in an opinion based upon a reasonable degree of scientific certainty. However, there is no absolute rule as to the degree of knowledge required to qualify a witness as an expert in a given field. Once competency is satisfied, a witness' knowledge of the subject matter affects the weight and credibility of their testimony.

[Forensic Magazine, Feb/Mar 2007\)](#)

Clark Baker has qualified (voir dire) as a narcotics expert in the following Los Angeles County Court cases:

People v. Rangel 11-1-85 (PCP influence/sales) Dept #279
People v. Smith 11-28-85 (opiate influence) Div #104
People v. Juarez 4-23-86 (opiate influence) Div #106
People v. Shipley 3-3-87 (cocaine/amphetamines influence) Div #136
People v. Mines 10-6-87 (opiates influence) Dept #115
People v. Juan S. 12-10-87 #87-1623941 (PCP) Dept #276
People v. Macias 2-4-88 (cocaine/amphetamines influence) Div #115
People v. Green 3-25-88 #88-1610127 (cocaine influence) Div #112
People v. Saul R. 7-1-88 # 88-1609738 (cocaine/amphetamine) Dept #278
People v. Gonzalez 7-7-89 #89P00509 (cocaine/amphetamine) Div #112
People v. King 11-17-89 #A001544 (cocaine influence/sales) Div #120
People v. Vincent T. 12-19-89 #839247 (PCP influence) Dept #277
People v. Spicer 12-20-89 #89P10404 (cocaine influence) Div #103
People v. Cox 1-3-90 #89P12295 (cocaine influence) Div #103
People v. Gamble 1-11-90 #89P13156 (cocaine/DUI) Div #113
People v. Urquidez 1-11-90 #PA001613 (felony DUI/alcohol) Div #133
People v. Keeney 2-21-90 #90P00858 (opiate influence/urine) Div#115
People v. Solis 2-22-90 #90P01155 (cocaine influence) Div #103
People v. Eurick 3-1-90 #89P12285 (PCP influence) Div #103
People v. Boyd 4-17-90 #LA000240 (Cocaine influence/urine) Div #121
People v. Villareal 4-18-90 #J838098 (PCP influence) Dept #277
People v. Alvarado (& Dominguez) #90-1604880 (PCP urine +)
People v. Copper #LA008497 10-31-91 (Cocaine influence/urine) Div #111

NOTE: Baker's expertise was stipulated to by the defense in an additional ~2700 drug cases. From 1985-1991, Baker secured a 100% filing and conviction rate.