

Administrative Law Judge Panel Discussion

1. What's one thing attorneys consistently do that makes your job easier—and one thing that makes it harder?
 - a. What are the best ways attorneys can prepare for hearings?
 - b. How important is familiarity with Commission rules and procedures?
 - c. Are there common things attorneys overlook at the outset?
2. How do you approach credibility and persuasion in technical utility cases with heavy expert testimony?
 - a. Are visuals or summaries useful to you?
 - b. How do you weigh conflicting expert testimony?
 - c. What mistakes do you see attorneys make with experts?
 - d. How can attorneys make technical material more digestible?
3. What do you wish attorneys knew about the decision-making process behind the scenes?
 - a. How early do you start forming an opinion?
 - b. Which parts of the record tend to carry the most weight?
4. How do you handle cases with a self-represented or less experienced party—and how should attorneys handle those dynamics?
 - a. What's your advice for attorneys in those situations?
 - b. How do you balance fairness without becoming an advocate?
5. What are your expectations for civility and professionalism, especially in contentious or highly technical cases?
 - a. How do you handle counsel who push the boundaries of professionalism?
 - b. What's your guidance when dealing with difficult opposing counsel?
6. What advice would you give to newer attorneys—or even seasoned ones—about maintaining a long, respectful, and productive practice before your Commission?
 - a. What would you tell your younger self if you were starting out today?
 - b. What distinguishes attorneys who thrive in this field over time?