**Steps in a Trial**

**(Sequence of Events)**

**Opening:**

1. Bailiff announces “all rise” - all in the courtroom rise
2. Judge enters the room and are seated
3. Judge calls for rest of courtroom to sit down
4. Judge asks teams if they are ready to proceed; Teams respond “yes, your Honor.”

(Clerk keeps time for each part going forward)

1. Plaintiff/Prosecution Attorney(s) makes opening statement
2. Defense Attorney(s) makes opening statement

**Plaintiff’s Case:**

1. Plaintiff/Prosecution Attorney calls Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #1 to the stand
2. Clerk leads Witness #1 in oath to tell the truth
3. Plaintiff/Prosecution Attorney direct examination of Pl Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #1
4. Defense Attorney cross examination of Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #1
5. Plaintiff/Prosecution Attorney re-direct of Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #1 (if desired)
6. Plaintiff/Prosecution Attorney calls Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #2 to the stand
7. Clerk leads Witness #2 in oath to tell the truth
8. Plaintiff/Prosecution Attorney direct examination of Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #2
9. Defense Attorney cross examination of Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #2
10. Plaintiff/Prosecution Attorney re-direct of Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #2 (if desired)
11. Plaintiff/Prosecution Attorney calls Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #3 to the stand
12. Clerk leads Witness #3 in oath to tell the truth
13. Plaintiff/Prosecution Attorney direct examination of Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #3
14. Defense Attorney cross examination of Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #3
15. Plaintiff/Prosecution Attorney re-direct of Plaintiff/Prosecution Witness #3 (if desired)

**Defense Case:**

1. Defense Attorney calls Defense Witness #1 to the stand
2. Clerk leads Witness #1 in oath to tell the truth
3. Defense Attorney direct examination of Defense Witness #1
4. Plaintiff/Prosecution Attorney cross examination of Defense Witness #1
5. Defense Attorney re-direct of Defense Witness #1 (if desired)
6. Defense Attorney calls Defense Witness #2 to the stand
7. Clerk leads Witness #2 in oath to tell the truth
8. Defense Attorney direct examination of Defense Witness #2
9. Plaintiff/Prosecution Attorney cross examination of Defense Witness #2
10. Defense Attorney re-direct of Defense Witness #2 (if desired)
11. Defense Attorney calls Defense Witness #3 to the stand
12. Clerk leads Witness #3 in oath to tell the truth
13. Defense Attorney direct examination of Defense Witness #3
14. Plaintiff/Prosecution Attorney cross examination of Defense Witness #3
15. Defense Attorney re-direct of Defense Witness #3 (if desired)

**Closing:**

1. Plaintiff/Prosecution Attorney(s) makes closing statement
2. Defense Attorney(s) makes closing statement
3. Judge gives Jurors their direction and asks them to adjourn to decide
4. Judge declares court in recess while Jurors adjourn (Jurors have limited time to adjourn)
5. Bailiff asks courtroom to stand while Judge and Jurors exit

**Verdict:**

1. Bailiff calls the courtroom to order & all stand while Judge and Jury return
2. Judge asks Jury if they have reached a verdict; Lead Juror responds
3. Judge asks jury to read its verdict (judge may poll the jurors)
4. Judge thanks the jury and declares case closed