

GENERAL PROVISIONS

50.015 General rule of competency. Every person is competent to be a witness except as otherwise provided in this Title.

(Added to NRS by 1971, 788)

50.025 Lack of personal knowledge.

1. A witness may not testify to a matter unless:

(a) Evidence is introduced sufficient to support a finding that he has personal knowledge of the matter; or

(b) He states his opinion or inference as an expert.

2. Evidence to prove personal knowledge may, but need not, consist of the testimony of the witness himself.

(Added to NRS by 1971, 788)

50.035 Oath or affirmation.

1. Before testifying, every witness shall be required to declare that he will testify truthfully, by oath or affirmation administered in a form calculated to awaken his conscience and impress his mind with his duty to do so.

2. An affirmation is sufficient if the witness is addressed in the following terms: "You do solemnly affirm that the evidence you shall give in this issue (or matter), pending between and, shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth." Assent to this affirmation shall be made by the answer, "I do."

(Added to NRS by 1971, 788)

50.045 Interpreters. Interpreters are subject to the provisions of this chapter relating to qualification as an expert and the administration of an oath or affirmation in appropriate form.

(Added to NRS by 1971, 788)

50.050 Interpreters for handicapped persons: Definitions; appointment required; compensation.

1. As used in this section, unless the context requires otherwise:

(a) "Handicapped person" means a person who, because he is deaf, mute or has a physical speaking impairment, cannot readily understand or communicate in the English language or cannot understand the proceedings.

(b) "Interpreter" means a person who is readily able to communicate with the handicapped person, translate the proceedings for him and accurately repeat and translate the statements of the handicapped person to the court or magistrate.

2. In all proceedings in which a handicapped person appears as a witness, the court or magistrate shall appoint an interpreter to interpret the proceedings to the handicapped person and to interpret the testimony of the handicapped person to the court or magistrate.

3. The court or magistrate shall fix a reasonable compensation for the services and expenses of the interpreter appointed pursuant to this section.

4. Compensation which is a county charge shall be paid by the county treasurer out of moneys in the county treasury not otherwise appropriated, upon the certificate of the judge or magistrate that the qualified interpreter has performed the services required and incurred the expenses claimed.

(Added to NRS by 1975, 308)

50.055 Competency: Judge as witness.

1. The judge presiding at the trial shall not testify in that trial as a witness.

2. If he is called to testify, no objection need be made in order to preserve the point.

(Added to NRS by 1971, 788)

50.065 Competency: Juror as witness.

1. A member of the jury shall not testify as a witness in the trial of the case in which he is sitting as a juror. If he is called to testify, the opposing party shall be afforded an opportunity to object out of the presence of the jury.

2. Upon an inquiry into the validity of a verdict or indictment:

(a) A juror shall not testify concerning the effect of anything upon his or any other juror's mind or emotions as influencing him to assent to or dissent from the verdict or indictment or concerning his mental processes in connection therewith.

(b) The affidavit or evidence of any statement by a juror indicating an effect of this kind is inadmissible for any purpose.

(Added to NRS by 1971, 788)

IMPEACHMENT

50.075 Who may impeach. The credibility of a witness may be attacked by any party, including the party calling him.

(Added to NRS by 1971, 789)

50.085 Evidence of character, conduct of witness.

1. Opinion evidence as to the character of a witness is admissible to attack or support his credibility but subject to these limitations:

(a) Opinions are limited to truthfulness or untruthfulness; and

(b) Opinions of truthful character are admissible only after the introduction of opinion evidence of untruthfulness or other evidence impugning his character for truthfulness.

2. Evidence of the reputation of a witness for truthfulness or untruthfulness is inadmissible.