

## Jessica Yates - Interesting Case

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One of the more interesting cases I've worked on in the past year was a premises liability case that we took to trial, and what made it interesting was not complicated facts or complex legal issues, but what I learned about attorneys, jurors, and judges. In particular, how do you distinguish yourself from opposing counsel? You know they're going to have a different position, but you can have different and better credibility and demeanor. Even if you're less experienced, the jurors might find you more trustworthy if you are professional and respectful. And that includes understanding and acknowledging the intelligence of the jury. Thinking about what the judge needs. For example, if you have a junior judge, is this person still learning? Do you need to develop your arguments more fully or brief evidentiary issues? How can you make his or her job easier? So, in sum, I learned a lot about all of the players in the courtroom in terms of how to constantly evaluate who they are as human beings and respond to that.

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