

PALM BEACH COUNTY JUSTICE ASSOCIATION

Rules for Participating in Palm Beach County Trial Talk

The following rules have been adopted by Palm Beach County Justice Association for participation in Palm Beach County Trial Talk. Our exclusive e-mail discussion group has grown to 450 members strong, and has become a valuable resource for sharing ideas and information with fellow members of the association.

By reviewing the following rules for participation, we are hopeful that the number of postings will rid Palm Beach County Trial Talk of unnecessary and inappropriate chatter, thereby making this email discussion group a beneficial and pleasurable experience for our members. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

1. All attorneys and their firms and paralegals and their firms must do **0% insurance defense work**.
2. All participants must be paid members of PBCJA.
3. All participants agree that the discussions are confidential and private, and are not to be shared with people outside of Trial Talk.
4. All participants should use discretion in their comments, particularly when commenting on an attorney, expert witness, and/or judge. While Trial Talk should remain an open forum, there are many divergent beliefs, views and friendships. Extremely harsh statements should be made privately outside of the Trial Talk forum. Use this rule of thumb: **“WOULD I BE COMFORTABLE HAVING MY E-MAIL REVIEWED BY A BAR GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE?”**
5. All Trial Talk discussions will be limited to legal issues. While everyone enjoys a good laugh, too much chatter that is not useful to members may cause valuable participants to leave the discussion group. Political issues, i.e., current races and legislation are proper subjects. Also, e-mails regarding the administration of an office are also proper subjects, i.e., inquiring about staffing issues, office maintenance issues, etc.
6. All paralegals must be a full time employee of a PBCJA attorney member who does 0% insurance defense work. If a paralegal member changes jobs, PBCJA must be notified immediately.
7. Restrict “thank you” and “you’re welcome” postings. It is presumed that each member has gratitude for another member volunteering useful information, thus there is no need to publicly thank someone for his or her contribution. However, if you feel the compulsion to be courteous, please send a private e-mail to the sender by typing their e-mail address into a new e-mail. Do not simply hit “REPLY,” as your thank you is then broadcasted to every member of Trial Talk.
8. All participants will properly identify themselves with their e-mail “signature” stating attorney’s name and firm.

I hereby certify that I have read and understand the rules for participation on Trial Talk

Member Signature

Member name

Date

Member e-mail address