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Oral Advocacy

**Themes:**

- Developing strategies and techniques for effective oral argument.

**Conversation Starters:**

- How do you or members of your firm/organization prepare for oral argument? Examples may include:
  - Prioritizing the issues you want to raise during argument;
  - Outlining the most important facts or law in your case;
  - Being honest and responsive when asked questions;
  - Re-focusing on an issue you were addressing before being asked a question;
  - Having a conversation with the court, as opposed to reading from a script;
  - Managing your time.

**Activities:**

- Observe together arguments made in the local county or municipal courts and/or appellate courts.
- Observe the different styles of argument and discuss what was effective and ineffective.

**Resources:**

- Discuss what additional resources the mentor/mentee have found useful in their own practice.
- Review the suggestions and tips provided in the following articles:
  - Hon. Danny J. Boggs, Appellate Advocacy from a Judge’s Perspective, ABA Young Lawyer Division e-Library.