

BRAINSTORMING:

A CRITICAL PART OF BUILDING THE STORY & ADVANCING YOUR THEORY

SHAWNA GEIGER
DIRECTOR OF ENGAGEMENT
OFFICE OF RESPONDENT PARENTS'
COUNSEL
ADC TRIAL ADVOCACY PROGRAM 2024

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brain
STORMING

2

BUSTING

3



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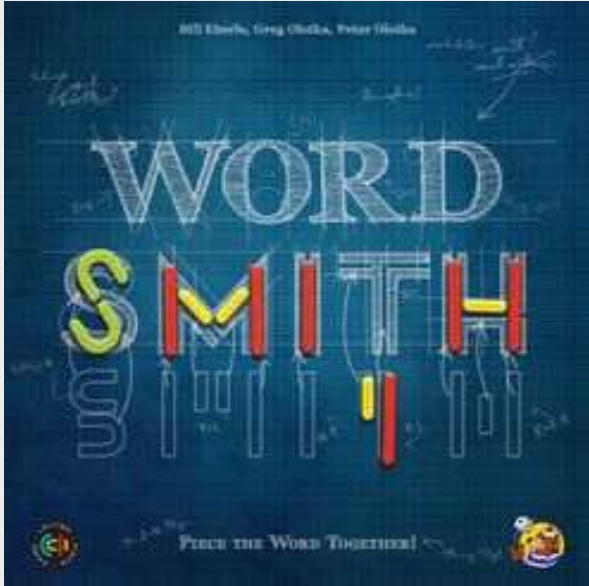
Where do I find these stories you speak of?



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The collage features three main elements: on the left, a man in a white shirt; in the center, a dirt path through a forest with the word "TRAILS" in large black letters; and on the right, a document titled "REPORT" with fields for "Date:" and "Prepared By:" followed by several lines of placeholder text.

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Bill Eberle, Greg Garka, Peter Hobbie

WORD SMITH

Pick the Word Together!

The Language of Your Case

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abused the voices rejected unloved

defeated unwanted addiction needy delusions

poverty anger scary forgotten beaten defenseless

decompensating angry uneducated dirty failure hallucinate

abandoned crazy alone unpredictable life on the streets

snatched hungry pathetic stolen tired scared

hopelessness no way out survival shuffled

fragile drugs parentified desperate unwanted

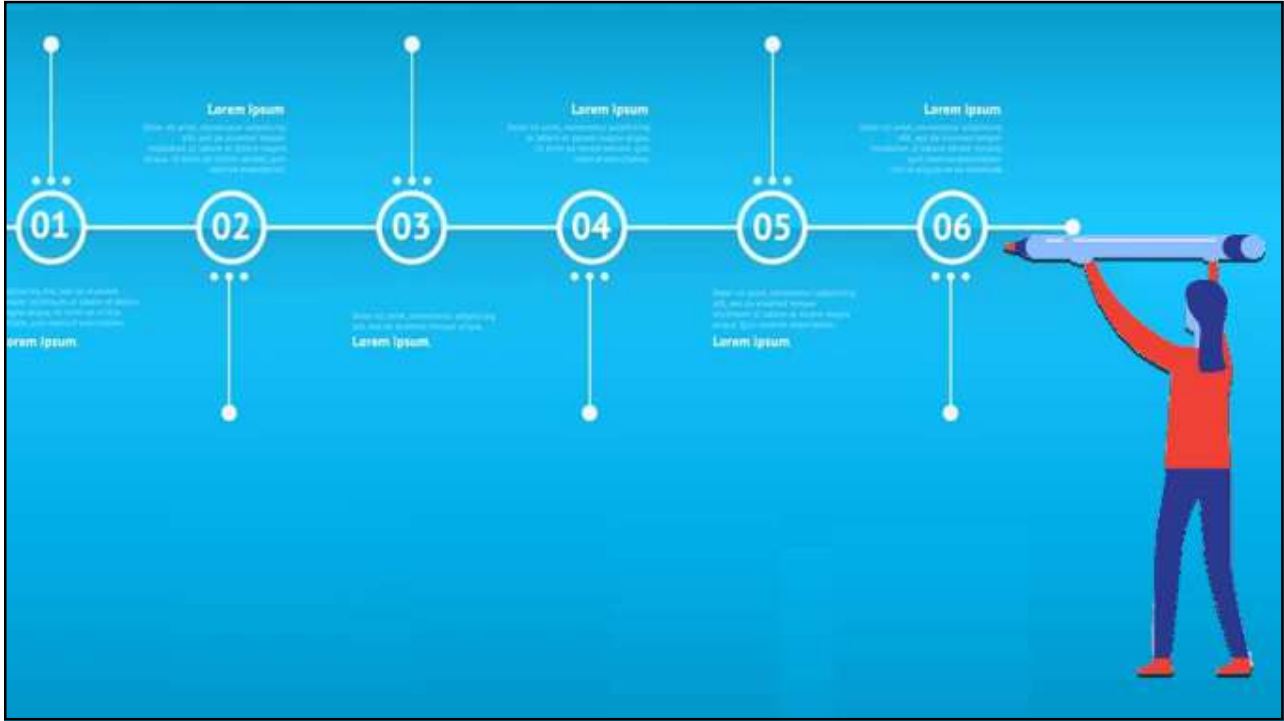
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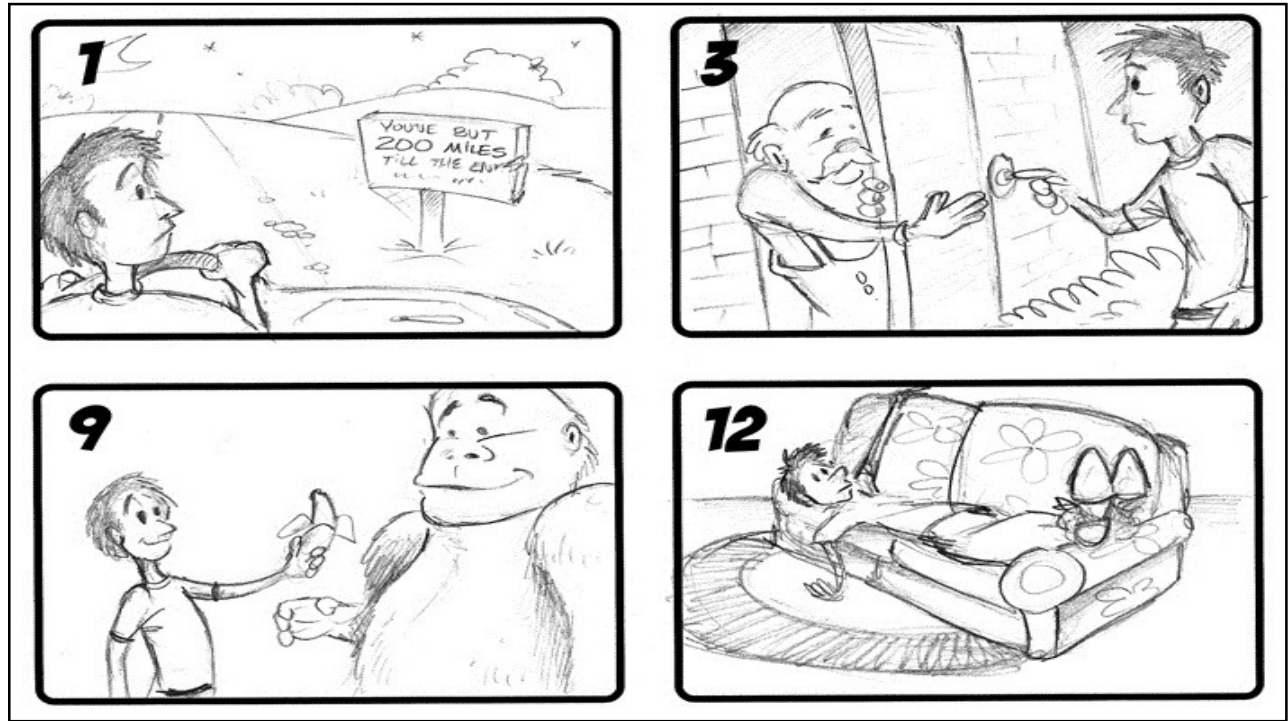
What is a Storyboard?

- It is a way of thinking about the **STORY** of your case
- It is a group of pictures or list of visuals that lays out the scenes of your case
- It is a method of deconstructing the case so that you can look at it in a way that breaks you out of chronology or the government's fact pattern
- It is a tool to help you take an additional look at the "facts" of your case in another way

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But what IS a Storyboard?


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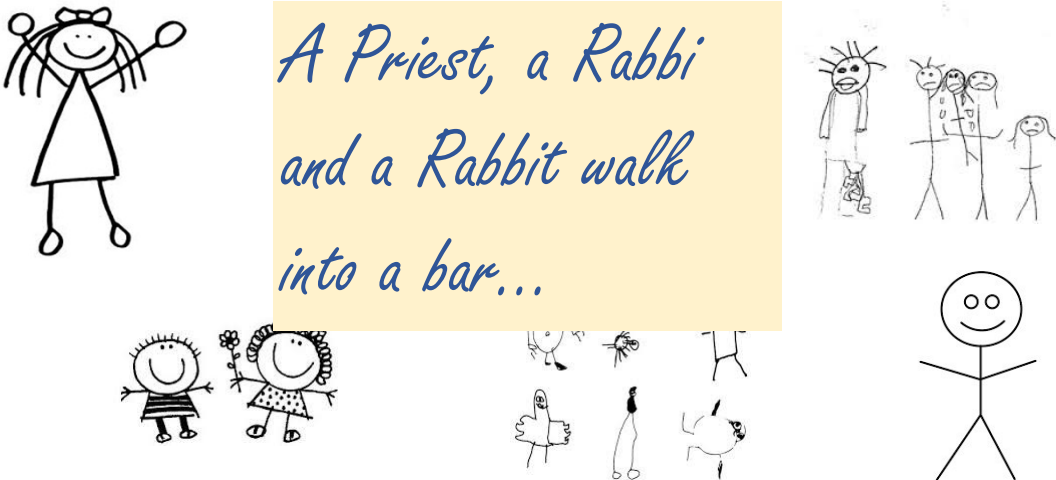
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- Visualize the Scene...
- Who are the characters?
- What are the parts of the scenes?
- What evidence do I need to corroborate and illustrate?

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It doesn't have to be fancy...



*A Priest, a Rabbi
and a Rabbit walk
into a bar...*

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WHY???

- Test the feasibility of your theory: if the storyboard looks wrong....it probably is
- Spot and fill as result of producing storyboard
- It helps focus your point of view on ENTIRE case rather than isolating witness by witness

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But I have a way I always do it....



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“If you always do what
you’ve always done,
you’ll always get what
you’ve always got.”

- *Henry Ford*

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**THINK LESS,
DO MORE.
JUST GIVE
IT
A TRY**

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WITNESS PLANNING & PREP

DEMONSTRATIVE DEVELOPMENT

SHORING UP INVESTIGATION

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2025 Spring Public Defender Conference

Session Five:

Brainstorming Your Case: A Critical Part of Building the Story

Thursday, April 24, 2025
10:05am – 11:05am
Shawna M. Geiger

A large QR code is positioned on the right side of the slide. Overlaid on the center of the QR code is the official seal of the Office of State Public Defender for Mississippi. The seal features a scale of justice and the text "OFFICE OF STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER" and "MISSISSIPPI".

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