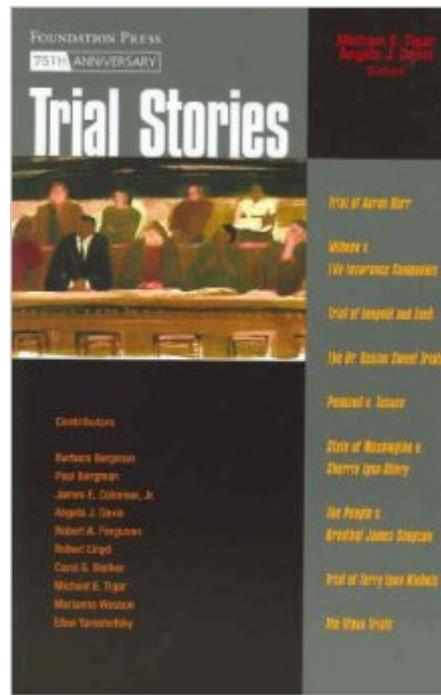


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# Trial Stories (Law Stories)



## Synopsis

This book tells the stories of nine iconic trials, in which the competing stories are compelling. The themes of these cases include treason, racial justice, the death penalty, fraud, personal rights, women's rights, product safety, and corporate misdeeds. However, the chapter authors have gone beyond retelling. They reveal how the story was told, and in that way teach us about advocacy and advocates. The chapter authors all have significant practice experience as well as academic qualifications. They show us lawyers at work, creating a relationship with a litigant seeking justice, and then taking that claim into the courtroom. Taken together, these chapters are excellent vehicles for teaching all the elements of trial advocacy, including jury selection, opening statement, direct and cross-examination, use of expert testimony, and closing argument. The book shows us that advocacy does make a difference, and that the skills of advocacy can be taught and learned.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This useful collection of essays spans from the trial of Aaron Burr to the Vioxx trials. The essays focus on the social and historical context of each case with special emphasis on the tactics that worked and those that failed. These are excellent essays that are well-documented and researched, but tell the story of real trials in a simple and approachable context. (Tigar's other books do the same thing.) Tigar and Davis also write several of the essays. For example, Davis gives a cogent account of the disastrous prosecution of the O.J. Simpson case but that also points out the many mistakes the defense made. Tigar writes about his defense of Terry Nichols in the Oklahoma City

bombing trial, much of which he covers in his other (also very useful and well-written) books, *Examining Witnesses and Persuasion*, but still makes for good reading. Of more interest to civil trial lawyers, Tigar also writes about two different Vioxx trials in which he had no apparent involvement and that represent a departure from Tigar's more typical writing about criminal trials. That essay has special value because it reveals the winning tactics of two very different trial lawyers trying very similar cases: Mark Lanier, a colorful plaintiffs' lawyer who won an early Vioxx trial (although reversed on appeal), and Phil Beck, a talented, low-key, and methodical lawyer who prevailed in a later trial for the defense.

Most pleased!

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