

May 2010 Favorite Things!

Every issue we include a Favorite Thing or two and this issue you know we had to have an iPad! Two favorite things: one free and one not (but very cool nonetheless).

Daniel Wolfe, J.D., Ph.D., a past president and board member of ASTC, is the Director of Jury Consulting for [Kroll Ontrack/TrialGraphix](#), a nationwide litigation consulting firm.

One of my new favorite things is to test my ability at juror profiling with a clever and creative [website](#). The website gives a great succinct history of the *voir dire* process in the United States and even gives the reader some of the guidelines and rules to follow when playing this game. Albeit elementary for some, it is a great tool to use for training beginners and to keep your edge if you consider yourself a pro. Give it a try . . . you might surprise yourself!

Jill D. Schmid, Ph.D., a consultant with [Tsongas Litigation Consulting](#), specializes in the creation and implementation of effective communication strategies, and the design and analysis of research for complex, civil litigation nationwide.

My new favorite thing (along with thousands of others) is my iPad. It means I don't have to haul my laptop around with me to read case documents either on the plane or off; it means the graphics I'm reviewing are still in color; it means I can put together presentations on the go; it means I can download books, magazines, or newspapers with one simple command; and it means I look exceptionally high-tech, gadgety-cool to both my 11-year-old son and fellow travelers.



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Editor's Note

Welcome to the May 2010 issue of [The Jury Expert](#)! It's spring (although in Texas it definitely feels like summer)! This issue we have reptiles in the courtroom (and in a departure from tradition, we have four trial lawyers responding to the article rather than trial consultants); a *Batson* update; a piece on juror intimidation inside the jury deliberation room; an article from two journalists on pre-trial publicity and what defense advocates can learn from the Duke lacrosse case (with responses from three trial consultants); a piece using sense-making theory to discuss how Supreme Court Justices behave like jurors; that age-old question of whether size matters when it comes to juries; an essay on persuasive communication and attorney likability; and finally--a trip across the country (and, kind of, through time) as consultants tell stories about rural courthouses time forgot (and stories about a few other things too).

Of course, we also have a couple of Favorite Things and want to remind you about the upcoming [ASTC conference](#) in beautiful Minneapolis, Minnesota. The theme this year is '[Perfecting Your Game](#)' and it's always a good time for that.

This is the first issue in which we have benefitted from visual graphics experts in pulling together the issue. Special thanks to Jason Barnes ([Barnes & Roberts](#)), Ted Brooks ([Litigation-Tech](#)) and Nate Hatch ([Resonant Legal Media](#)). Click anywhere in this issue of [The Jury Expert](#) for challenging, educative and fun reading for Spring 2010. You'll see us again in July and 24/7 on-line. Read us. Tell your friends and colleagues.

[Rita R. Handrich, Ph.D., Editor](#)

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