

Rule 405 Methods of proving character

- (a) Reputation or opinion. In all cases in which evidence of character or a trait of character of a person is admissible, proof may be made by testimony as to general reputation in the community or by testimony in the form of opinion.
- (b) Inquiry on cross-examination. On cross-examination of a character witness, it is proper to inquire if the witness has heard of or knows about relevant specific instances of conduct. However, no specific instance of conduct may be the subject of inquiry under this provision unless the cross-examiner has a factual basis for the subject matter of the inquiry.
- (c) Specific instances of conduct. In cases in which character or a trait of character of a person is an essential element of a charge, claim, or defense, proof may also be made of specific instances of that person's conduct.

Effective: July 1, 1992

History: Enacted 1990 Ky. Acts ch. 88, sec. 15; amended 1992 Ky. Acts ch. 324, sec. 5; renumbered (7/1/92) pursuant to 1992 Ky. Acts ch. 324, sec. 34.