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**Abstract**

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Recorded Scholarly Presentation

Major: Forensic Psychology

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**Perspective Jurors' Perception of Expert Witness Credibility**

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Jurors' perceptions of expert witness testimony were examined. Participants assessed expert testimony related to three forms of memory evidence – system (e.g., interview procedures used by police), estimator (e.g., memory and age) and both variables. Such variables are inherent in eyewitness reports. The goal was to determine if jurors' perceptions of expert witness credibility would change depending on the type of variables, system, or estimator, testified to by the expert. It was expected that credibility ratings would change depending upon the type of testimony provided. Jury-eligible adults (N =184) were randomly assigned to read a case summary describing a carjacking and court transcript of the direct examination of the expert witness. Participants rated the credibility of the expert's testimony and the defendant's likelihood of guilt. Credibility was assessed using the Witness Credibility Scale (WCS; Brodsky, 2010) and the Credibility of Procedural-Witness Scale (CoPS; Wheeler, 2019). Ratings from both the WCS and CoPS yielded a main effect for the type of expert presented. Overall, the system variable expert was perceived as the least credible. While the estimator variable expert and the expert testifying to both types of variables was rated as significantly more credible. There were no differences in perceived credibility between experts testifying about estimator or both types of variables. Lower perceived credibility of the system variable expert may be related to prospective jurors' positive attitudes towards the judicial system and see that expert as attacking that system. Future research will consider this novel hypothesis.