

Expert Witness Report Rubric

Criteria	Points
In-depth Analysis of Specified Legislative Plan	40 points
Comprehensive Review of Legal Framework and Case Law	30 points
Critical Evaluation of Enacted Plan vs. “YOUR-LAST-NAME Illustrative Plan” or Technical Analysis of Simulated Districting Plans	40 points
Effective Use of Maps, Tables, and Visuals in Appendices	20 points
Conclusive Opinion on Plan’s Legality and Fairness	30 points
Quality of Writing	30 points
Additional Insights and Original Perspectives	10 points

Total Points: 200

Description of Criteria:

In-depth Analysis of Specified Legislative Plan (40 points): Detailed examination of the legislative plan, focusing on its structure, demographics, and impact on representation. Analysis should cover all aspects of the plan.

Comprehensive Review of Legal Framework and Case Law (30 points): Extensive research and discussion of relevant state and federal laws, along with pertinent case law. The review should inform the legal interpretation of the plan and its comparison with alternatives.

Critical Evaluation of Enacted Plan vs. “YOUR-LAST-NAME Illustrative Plan” or Technical Analysis of Simulated Districting Plans (40 points): A focused comparison between the enacted plan and the student’s illustrative plan (or set of plans created by the simulation). Evaluation should highlight differences in legal compliance, fairness, and representation.

Effective Use of Maps, Tables, and Visuals in Appendices (20 points): Inclusion of clear, informative, and well-organized maps, tables, and other visuals. These should support and enhance the written analysis and conclusions.

Conclusive Opinion on Plan’s Legality and Fairness (30 points): A clear, well-supported conclusion providing a definitive stance on the legality and fairness of the plan based on the analysis conducted.

Quality of Writing (30 points): The report should be well-written, with clear, concise, and structured arguments. It should adhere to academic standards and be understandable to a broad audience.

Additional Insights and Original Perspectives (10 points): Demonstration of original thinking, offering unique insights or novel perspectives on the redistricting issue. This criterion rewards creative and innovative approaches to the analysis.