FOR LEGAL PROFESSIONALS / EVIDENCE

Review the evidence behind a blockchain conclusion

Use a structured review to examine provenance, methodology, attribution and the limits of an expert's conclusion.

01 Identify the proposition before reviewing the exhibit

Identify the proposition each exhibit supports, such as a transfer, service attribution or control of an address. Accurate transaction records do not automatically establish identity or intent. Ask which additional facts are required for the proposed conclusion.

02 Check provenance and the record of handling

Record source, collection time, preservation and transformations such as filtering, redaction or timestamp normalisation. Retain original material and working copies. A checksum helps detect file changes; it does not establish the truth of the content.

03 Review the method and its alternatives

Examine assumptions, alternatives and limitations behind material inferences. Ask whether another reviewer can follow the reasoning. Document proprietary-tool limitations and available independent support rather than turning uncertainty into an unsupported probability.

04 Check the expert requirements in the forum

Confirm the forum's expert-evidence requirements with local counsel. CPR Part 35 and Practice Direction 35 apply to England and Wales, not globally. For valuation, identify purpose, asset, time zone and price source, and who is qualified to address it.

Example. A fictional conclusion reads: "The address is labelled Exchange A; therefore the defendant controlled the funds." The service label leaves a gap concerning the customer account, control at the relevant time and the evidence linking that account to the defendant.

Review checklist

- ☐ I have identified the proposition each important exhibit supports.
- ☐ I have checked source provenance and material transformations.
- ☐ I have distinguished factual observations from expert inferences.
- ☐ I have checked the applicable expert-evidence requirements with local counsel.

General educational framework; assess legal steps and expert requirements in the relevant jurisdiction. Example is fictional.

References: NIST: digital evidence preservation / England and Wales: Civil Procedure Rules Part 35 / England and Wales: Practice Direction 35