

“eDepoze saved us the time and expense of creating hundreds of binders full of paper to shuffle through for each exhibit. I’m not sure how we would have handled this case without it.”

*Jennifer Arnold, Certified Paralegal,
at Barrow & Grimm*

“Our arbitration panel was impressed by the technology and loved not having to fumble through thousands of exhibits. All at a cost that was significantly cheaper than paper copies!”

*N. Lance Bryan, Partner
at Doerner Sanders*

OVERVIEW

Opveon, an end-to-end litigation support and consulting firm based in Tulsa, prides itself on being able to adapt and show versatility for their clients. Litigation has typically been slow to respond to innovation but two Tulsan firms have taken the first step. They collaborated with Opveon for possible solutions to a very document laden arbitration. Opveon aided Doerner, Sanders, Daniels & Anderson as well as Barrow & Grimm in completing a month-long arbitration using eDepoze, a paperless litigation system. The firms knew this collaboration would save them valuable time and resources. eDepoze allowed the firms to organize, manage and distribute documents using laptops and iPads; a more modern and efficient way to litigate.

PROBLEM

Arbitration is just weeks away and firms need to begin preparations for supplying over 20 attorneys, three arbitrators and a witness with the appropriate documents. Using the traditional paper-based process, firms would be forced to gather thousands of exhibits. The assembly of these documents would require strenuous, time-consuming organization. They would need to be organized, printed, copied, tabbed, three hole-punched for binders, bound and delivered to each party involved. This outdated process will cost each firm valuable time and cost the client a significant amount of money. This seemed particularly counterintuitive considering how most other areas of law practice have shifted to more efficient approaches through the use of technology.

Each firm faced the following paper related challenges:

- Organizing, printing, copying and transporting thousands of exhibits to and from arbitration.
- Excessive amount of time spent by firms and Opveon to meet those paper needs.
- Each side would be burdened with over 70,000 pages of documents (approx.. 35-40 boxes of paper).

SOLUTION

Reaching out to Opveon, a trusted resource, the firms began exploring options for an electronic solution relevant to their needs. They began to evaluate solutions that would increase efficiency and lower costs. Opveon, an authorized reselling partner of eDepoze, suggested the electronic exhibit system that they had personally used in numerous depositions and witness prep sessions. After viewing a demo of the product, the firms saw eDepoze as a viable solution.

eDepoze delivered the following solutions to DSDA and Barrow & Grimm through Opveon:

- Availability for deployment through Opveon, experienced in using eDepoze and with credibility as a trusted vendor. Opveon provided additional assistance with document preparation and organization. It additionally helped in managing the arbitration sessions providing the necessary equipment and by presenting exhibits.
- Straightforward training sessions and an easy-to-use interface allowed the firms to start implementing workflows quickly.
- Intuitive process for uploading the documents, organizing exhibits and preparing the arbitration for users.
- Very little resistance or hesitation from other parties, including arbitrators. All users loved the ability to leave the arbitration with the days exhibits available to view on their iPads or laptops instead of shifting through a box of papers.

BENEFITS

The arbitration proceeded for about a month. In addition to providing regular litigation support and equipment, Opveon was a major component in the day to day execution of the arbitration. The ability to host everything on one platform instead of referring to multiple document repositories, was an absolute game-changer for all parties involved. The use of eDepoze on this large scale arbitration opens the door for day to day use of the electronic exhibit solution. Firms now have less preparation, increasing their efficiency and reducing their costs.

"We had a very large document intensive arbitration coming up and were looking for a program that could hold all of the exhibits. Opveon suggested eDepoze because it could handle everything I was looking for. We were able to provide each judge on the panel, attorney and the witness with an iPad," said Jennifer Arnold, Certified Paralegal, at Barrow & Grimm. **"All they had to do was sit back and watch the screen. The attorneys could pull up the exhibits and mark them. You could easily pass control from one side to the other. If the witness needed to demonstrate something on the exhibit we could turn over the controls to him/her and they could draw on it so that everyone could see, it was very user-friendly. eDepoze saved us the time and expense of creating hundreds of binders full of paper to shuffle through for each exhibit. I'm not sure how we would have handled this case without it."**

"We needed a solution for handling a mountain of paper exhibits for an intense, three week arbitration and we fortunately found eDepoze. After just a brief hands-on training session, our entire team was able to immediately use eDepoze to manage, prepare, and make dynamic displays of our exhibits at the hearing," said N. Lance Bryan, Partner at Doerner Sanders. **"Coordination with our opponent on proposed exhibits and management of marked exhibits was nearly effortless with eDepoze. Our arbitration panel was impressed by the technology and loved not having to fumble through thousands of exhibits. All at a cost that was significantly cheaper than paper copies!"**

Specific benefits eDepoze has delivered include:

- One easy-to-use platform, including a stand-alone app and an intuitive web management site. With over 50% time saved, staff can focus their energy on higher value work and ongoing needs of numerous cases.
- Massive costs savings for what would have been a paper-intensive arbitration. Paper costs would have amounted to over \$22,000 per set. At least five sets would have been needed for this arbitration. eDepoze saved the firms roughly 73% of the fees.
- Elimination of paper copies - and excessive waste - from the arbitration process, saving time, effort and money for the firm and its clients.
- Reduction of redundant work when exhibits are reused for numerous litigation sessions, allowing staff to skip the step of recreating the document over and over again.
- Quicker turnaround and convenience - Firm can access exhibits directly from eDepoze (versus going through the court reporter).