



MRCC
Midwestern Regional Climate Center
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MRCC EXPERT WITNESS TESTIMONY POLICY

For legal disputes within Illinois:

The MRCC is a cooperative program of the Prairie Research Institute at the University of Illinois. MRCC employees can only appear as friends of the court, typically to verify the authenticity of climate data records. This type of appearance is rarely necessary since the MRCC provides certification verifying the authenticity of MRCC records. Properly certified records from the MRCC can usually be entered into evidence without additional testimony. If a dispute arises over the authenticity of certified climate data records obtained from the MRCC, the parties are encouraged to request certified records from the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC). NCDC is the federal government resource for certified climate data and the de facto source for climate information used in litigation. The MRCC is not a meteorological consulting firm and does not provide expert witness testimony in Illinois. Parties requiring an expert witness are encouraged to contact a private consulting firm. The American Meteorological Society maintains a list of certified consulting meteorologists in the private sector.

For legal disputes outside Illinois:

Certified climate data obtained from the MRCC can usually be entered into evidence without additional testimony. If a dispute arises regarding the authenticity of MRCC certified records, the parties are encouraged to obtain certified records from the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC). NCDC is the federal government resource for certified climate data and is considered the de facto standard for climate information used in litigation. The MRCC will not appear in court outside of Illinois to verify the authenticity of certified records. The MRCC is not a consulting firm and does not provide in expert witness testimony. Parties requiring an expert witness are encouraged to contact a private consulting firm. The American Meteorological Society maintains a list of certified consulting meteorologists in the private sector.

All summons, subpoenas and requests for testimony issued to the MRCC will be immediately directed to the University of Illinois Office of University Counsel.

Resources

MRCC Certification Policy http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/prod_serv/prodserv_serv_certify.htm

NCDC Certification Policy

<http://lwf.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/about/ncdcordering.html#CERTIFICATION>

AMS Directory of Certified Consulting Meteorologists

<http://www.ametsoc.org/memb/ccm/ccmhome.html>

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