

(INSERT NAME OF COURT)
Judge (INSERT NAME)
(INSERT MONTH, YEAR)

Summary: Civil Mock Trial of Cluck E. Chicken versus East R. Bunny

Prosecution: Cluck E. Chicken is the star witness for the prosecution. She says East R. Bunny trespassed into her hen house to steal her 12 eggs when she went to cross the road. She accuses Bunny of disguising and hiding them for children to find. The prosecutor says Bunny should pay \$500 in damages. The case will be “over easy.”

Defense: East R. Bunny denies all charges. She says she got her eggs elsewhere, then decorated and hid them for children’s egg hunts. No one has ever questioned her source for eggs before, why now? Her attorney says the prosecution “scrambled” the facts, and Bunny will offer “eggs-ellent” evidence in her defense.

Witnesses for Prosecution: Little Joey testifies about children finding Bunny’s decorated eggs after Easter morning services. The child admits all eggs look “eggs-actly” alike and doesn’t know if the eggs they found were Cluck E. Chicken’s. When asked who stole the eggs, Hopp E. Frog answers, “Ri-bbit!” The defense questions the testimony’s reliability because the frog answers all questions by saying either “Rog!” or “Ri-bbit!”

Witness for Defense: Despite the prosecutor’s objection, the judge allows testimony from a surprise witness—Santa Claus! Wearing a colorful shirt and shorts, he says he took a break from his vacation to testify for his BFF, East R. Bunny. He says she is very honest, and he would never “eggs-pect” her to steal eggs from any chicken. She is one of his helpers, along with Soup R. Mann, Wunder Woman, Blue Santa, and Pancho Clos.

Closing arguments: The prosecutor argues East R. Bunny committed theft after *trespassing* into Cluck E. Chicken’s hen house. Bunny hid “eggs-actly” 12 eggs the morning after 12 were stolen, no one denied East R. Bunny hid them, and Hopp E. Frog said “Ra-bbit” took them. Pastor Héctor told the children that East R. Bunny hid the eggs, and he never eggs-agerates! Santa was on vacation at the time and had no knowledge of what transpired. The rabbit deserves to be fried—or at least hard-boiled!

The defense argues East R. Bunny is not guilty because she got her eggs elsewhere; no evidence indicates the eggs she hid were the ones that were stolen; she never entered Cluck E. Chicken’s hen house to steal them; and Hopp E. Frog is unreliable, repeatedly saying, “Ri-bbit!” A dozen organic eggs sell for \$5, and Cluck E. gets no salary and pays no rent, so why should she get \$500? What’s more, Santa testified in Bunny’s defense, and he never lies—maybe another animal, el coyote, or the Big Bad Wolf stole the eggs.

--Senator Judith Zaffirini