**1A.21 CONTENTS OF DOCUMENT (FORMERLY 1A.19)**

Exhibit (insert identifying letter or number) is evidence of a (insert description--e.g., an agreement, a will). (Name of proponent) claims that this is the authentic (insert description). (Name of opponent) disagrees and claims that (insert description of claim--e.g., that no such writing ever was made; that another exhibit is the authentic one; or that other evidence in the case demonstrates that this is not an authentic item). It is for you to decide who is correct according to the instructions that I will give you.

Use Note

Whenever evidence is admitted concerning a disputed writing or recording and the jury is asked to decide either whether an item ever existed or what the contents of it were, this instruction should be used. It is consistent with Alaska R. Evid. 1008.

Comment

Alaska R. Evid. 1008 sets forth three issues that relate to the best evidence rule and that are reserved for the jury. The purpose of this instruction is to alert the jury to the fact that the admission of an exhibit does not necessarily mean that the court has accepted the exhibit as correct.