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SENATOR CHAMBERS: Right. And haven't you read cases where the courts have said that any person who defends himself or herself is held to the same standard as an attorney?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: I have.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And that means if a tenant does not know when to object, how to object, what motion to make or how to make a motion, then the tenant in effect is that whippy legal eagle, which turns out to be a plucked chicken when it's over. Tell me how you think this tenant without a lawyer has a chance in district against a landlord with an experienced litigator.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: All right, Senator Chambers, you won't agree, but I, first of all, I would suggest that these are not the most difficult, complex, technical actions in the world. That a judge would have a duty to at least guide and steer in...I'm not talking about tell the pro se litigant how...what to say or how to say it, but would say it is your turn to present your case, or it is your moment to testify and the like. And the facts would come out on the record.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And you...and you think that that...that's going to help this tenant win the case? Let me ask you this, Senator Brashear, if I am represented by a lawyer and I choose to testify, does the fact that I am testifying in my own behalf suspend the rules of evidence so that I can freely have hearsay evidence admitted simply because I'm testifying to it, whereas ordinarily it would be inadmissible?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: No, not at all, Senator Chambers. But let's don't forget that the owner of a property is the first, best and presumptively the most knowledgeable authority on the value of the property. So the owner testifying that when you testify it's worth \$1,000, that's better evidence than when I say, well, I reasonably thought it was only \$500.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But, Senator Brashear, that is not proof, that's an opinion. We have an existing fact...

SENATOR BRASHEAR: That's evidence.