

TEXAS DISTRICT & COUNTY ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION

T D C A A

Annual Criminal & Civil Law Update

South Padre Island Convention Centre
South Padre Island
September 17–19, 2014

Early registration is available Tuesday, Sept. 16, from Noon–5 p.m. at the Isla Grande Resort.

Wednesday, September 17 at the South Padre Convention Centre

8:00 a.m. Registration begins.

9:00 a.m. Rural Prosecutors' Forum (2 hours MCLE)

Moderated by Michael Fouts, 39th Judicial District Attorney, and Michael Criswell, Swisher County Attorney

General Session

1:00 p.m. Welcome, Course Introduction, & Special Recognitions

1:30 p.m. Dazed and Confused: Prosecutor Challenges after the Legalization of Marijuana

Chris Halsor, Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor, Colorado District Attorneys' Council

2:15 p.m. CCA & SCOTUS Update

David Newell, Asst. District Attorney, Harris County

4:00 p.m. The Seven Habits of Highly Successful Prosecutors

William J. Fitzpatrick, District Attorney, Onondaga County District Attorney's Office, New York

5:00 p.m. Adjourn

5:05 p.m. TDCAA Business Meeting & Board Elections

6:00 p.m. Opening reception (provided by TDCAA) at The Pearl South Padre

Go to www.tdcaa.com/training today to register!

Breakouts on Thursday, September 18 at the Convention Centre

Electronic Evidence

8:30 a.m. Online Hacking
Rodolfo Ramirez, Asst. District Attorney, Fort Bend County

9:45 a.m. Social Media as Evidence
Patrick Wilson, County & District Attorney, Ellis County

11:00 a.m. Electronic Information: Art. 18.21
Cameron Calligan, Asst. District Attorney, Harris County

Civil Law

8:30 a.m. Legislative Update for Civil Attorneys

Deece Eckstein, Coordinator of Inter-Governmental Relations, Travis County

9:45 a.m. Tips for PIA Requests
Holly Lytle, Asst. County Attorney, El Paso County

11:00 a.m. Energy Issues Facing Counties
David Kemp, First Asst. County Attorney, Potter County

Effective Leadership

8:30 a.m. What Does an Effective Prosecutor's Office Look Like?

Bill Turner, former District Attorney, Brazos County, now with Brockett & McNeel, LLP

9:45 a.m. Employment Law for the Prosecutor Manager
Jay Aldis, Partner, Bracewell & Giuliani

11:00 a.m. Communicating and Maintaining a Consistent Message Within the Prosecutor's Office

Mark Warren, Training Coordinator, Texas Association of Counties, Austin

Special Victim Abuse

8:30 a.m. Human Trafficking
Geoff Barr, Asst. Attorney General, Austin, and Kirsta Melton, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Bexar County

9:45 a.m. Elder Fraud
JoAnne Woodruff, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Bexar County

11:00 a.m. Use of Experts in Child Sexual Assaults

Investigators

8:30 a.m. Lottery Investigations
Mario Valdez, Lottery Commission

9:45 a.m. Environmental Investigations
Neil Kucera, Asst. County Attorney, Travis County

11:00 a.m. Show Me the Money: Investigating Social Security & PAF Cases

Donna Hawkins, Asst. District Attorney, Harris County

Key Personnel & VACs

8:30 a.m. Life on Death Row
Texas Department of Criminal Justice staff

9:45 a.m. Parole Eligibility
Rissie Owens, Chair of the Texas Board of Pardons and Parole, Huntsville

11:00 a.m. A Judge's Responsibility to Victims

Seana Willing, Executive Director, and Erik Nielsen, Commission Counsel, State Commission on Judicial Conduct, Austin

Noon Box lunch at the Convention Centre (provided by TDCAA)

Building A Case

1:30 p.m. Grand Jury as an Investigative Tool
Kelly Blackburn, Asst. District Attorney, Montgomery County

2:45 p.m. Crime Scene Integrity
Dusty Boyd, Criminal District Attorney, Coryell County

4:00 p.m. Emerging Trends in Forensic Evidence
Richard Alpert, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Tarrant County

Civil Law

1:30 p.m. Emergency & Disaster Relief
Lela Nicholl, Asst. County Attorney, Harris County, and Stuart Hughes, Asst. County Attorney, Montgomery County

2:45 p.m. County Contracting
Ray Rike, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Tarrant County

4:00 p.m. Guns and the Law in Texas
John Long, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Kaufman County, and Manuel Romero, Asst. County Attorney, El Paso County

Issues du Jour

1:30 p.m. Mandatory Brady Training
W. Clay Abbott, TDCAA

2:45 p.m. Michael Morton Act Panel Discussion
Moderated by TDCAA staff

4:00 p.m. Media Do's and Don'ts
K.C. Steckelberg, Director of Public Affairs, Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan

Experts

1:30 p.m. Mitigation Squads
Brian Baker, Asst. District Attorney, Brazos County, and Traci Bennett, Asst. District Attorney, Harris County

2:45 p.m. Cross Examination of the Expert
Brian Baker, Asst. District Attorney, Brazos County, and Traci Bennett, Asst. District Attorney, Harris County

4:00 p.m. Mental Health: Nuances of Competency
Bradford Crockard, Asst. District Attorney, Harris County

Investigators

1:30 p.m. Social Media: Finding It
Patrick Wilson, County & District Attorney, Ellis County

2:45 p.m. Social Media: Getting It
Melissa Hightower, Chief CA Investigator, Williamson County

4:00 p.m. Social Media: Using It
Todd Smith, Chief CDA Investigator, Lubbock County

Key Personnel & VACs

1:15 p.m. VAC Regional Elections
1:30 p.m. Domestic Violence Cases & Victims

Lisa Porter and Jane Waters, Asst. District Attorneys, and Jennifer Varela, LCSW and Victim Assistance Coordinator, Harris County

2:45 p.m. Animal Cruelty
David Alex, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Dallas County

4:00 p.m. Grants & Other Money
Jalayne Robinson, Victim Services Director, TDCAA

5:00 pm Adjourn 6:00 pm Buffet dinner (provided by TDCAA) at the Isla Grand Resort

Breakouts on Friday, September 19 at the Convention Centre

Trial Ethics

9:00 a.m. Social Media & Ethics
Scott Durfee, Asst. District Attorney, Harris County

10:45 a.m. The Role of the Prosecutor: Hollywood & Main
W. Clay Abbott, TDCAA, Austin

12:15 p.m. Adjourn

Civil Law (Ethics)

9:00 a.m. The Brumley & Rike Ethical Practice of Civil Law, Part I

Ray Rike, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Tarrant County, and C. Scott Brumley, County Attorney, Potter County

10:45 a.m. The Brumley & Rike Ethical Practice of Civil Law, Part II

12:15 p.m. Adjourn

Investigator

9:00 a.m. Cell Phone Towers and Pings
Det. Keith Martin, City of Denton Police Department

10:45 a.m. Avoiding Burn-Out
Mark Yarbrough, former County & District Attorney, Lamb County

12:15 p.m. Adjourn

Registration: Advance registration is recommended, and **all registration is online only at www.tdcaa.com/training**.

Eligible prosecutors and prosecutor office employees are entitled to attend all training and receive applicable expense reimbursement for a \$175 registration fee, which will be deposited into the Court of Criminal Appeals' Texas Prosecutor Assistance Project (TPAP) account (our grant) and used to fund other TPAP training events. The reimbursement policy is below.

Association fee: A TDCAA fee of \$175 is each participant's share of costs over and above what the grant allows (for example, excess costs of on-site meals and association overhead). In addition, this fee enables TDCAA to lock in discounted hotel rates for participants and entitles them to attend all association functions, including receptions Wednesday and Thursday and lunch on Thursday. Conference attendees who pay only the \$175 registration fee can attend all training but are not entitled to attend association functions.

Reimbursement: TDCAA will reimburse only eligible prosecutors and prosecutor office employees up to \$45 per night for Wednesday and Thursday nights at a hotel and up to \$20 a day for meals not provided at the conference. TDCAA will not reimburse for travel, registration fees, hotel tax, parking, taxi costs, or other extraordinary expenses. All meals not provided by TDCAA and other expenses are your own. Associate members are not eligible for reimbursement.

CLE credit: TDCAA has received 12 hours of TCLEOSE and CLE credit, including 3 hours of ethics and 1 hour mandatory *Brady* training.

Cancellation: Registrants canceling after August 29 will not receive a refund but will be sent copies of the course materials on disk.

Hotel Information: Please make room reservations in an attendee's name, not a county or office administrator's name. If reserving more than one room, do not make all reservations in the same name. Please do not overbook hotel rooms! TDCAA is allotted a certain number of rooms at the state rate, which are surrendered by the hotel if you don't use them.

• **The Pearl South Padre:** Currently sold out. Check for any cancellations by calling 956/761-6551 by August 15, 2014. Rates are \$86-149 plus tax, depending on room size.

• **Isla Grand Resort:** Currently sold out. Check for any cancellations by calling 956/761-6511 by August 19, 2014. Rates are \$86 plus tax for cabanas to \$170 plus tax for two-bedroom condos.

• **Hilton Garden Inn (across from Convention Centre):** TDCAA's room block is sold out Wednesday and Thursday at the group rate, but there are Monday and Tuesday nights available. Call 956/761-8700 by August 15, 2014. Rates are \$86 plus tax per night.

• **La Quinta (across from Convention Centre):** Call 956/772-7000 by August 15, 2014. Rates are \$86 plus tax per night.

• **Schlitterbahn Beach Resort:** Call 956/761-1160 by August 29, 2014. Rates are \$86 plus tax per night.

• **The Inn at South Padre:** Call 956/761-5658 by September 7, 2014. Rates are \$86 plus tax per night.

• **Travel Lodge:** Call 866/601-6200 by September 2, 2014. Rates are \$69.99 plus tax per night.

The following hotels do NOT have a TDCAA contracted block, but they are nice properties that you are welcome to use at your own discretion:

• **Holiday Inn Express:** Book online or call 888/465-4329 or direct at 956/761-8844.

• **Palms Resort:** 956/761-1316.

• **La Copa Inn:** 956/761-6000.

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