

T D C A A

# Prosecuting Violent Crimes

## April 11–14, 2017

### Omni Houston Hotel @ Westside

**17.75 hours of MCLE/TCOLE, including 1.5 hours of ethics  
(PLUS 1.75 hours of optional domestic violence training pre-seminar)**

**Host hotel information:** This seminar will be at the Omni Houston Hotel at Westside, located at 13210 Katy Freeway, Houston, TX 77079. The room rate is \$125 per night plus tax for single or double occupancy and is good until March 20 or until sold out. Self-parking and Internet access are complimentary. To make reservations, call the hotel directly at 281/558-8338 or at 800/843-6664, and reference the 2017 TDCAA Prosecuting Violent Crimes Seminar to get the group rate.

**Reimbursement:** TDCAA will reimburse only eligible prosecutors and prosecutor office employees up to \$40 per night for three nights' stay 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.

**Dress:** Casual dress is acceptable for all TDCAA trainings unless otherwise noted.

**Registration for this seminar is online only at [www.tdcaa.com/training](http://www.tdcaa.com/training).**

*This program is funded by a grant from the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals and by the Texas District and County Attorneys Association.*

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# Prosecuting Violent Crimes Agenda

## Tuesday, April 11

9:00 a.m. Registration opens.

**10:00 a.m.–Noon Domestic Violence Training**  
 (free separate training for 1.75 hours MCLE)  
*Staley Heatly, 46th Judicial District Attorney*  
 TDCAA offers this free session for prosecutor-office personnel via a Victim Assistance Grant through the Texas Governor’s Office. Registration is separate from the Prosecuting Violence Crimes seminar, and advance online registration is strongly encouraged to ensure materials and a seat are reserved for you. Participants will receive a free copy of TDCAA’s *Protective Orders* manual and a two-sided laminated sheet on protective orders.

1:15 p.m. Welcome & Course Introduction  
 1:30 p.m. Close to Home: A Case Study  
*Erleigh Wiley, Criminal District Attorney, Kaufman County, and Bill Wirsky, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Collin County*  
 3:30 p.m. Keeping a Prosecutor’s Perspective (1.5 hours ethics)  
*Scott Simpson, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Bexar County*  
 5:00 p.m. Adjourn to opening reception (provided by TDCAA)

## Wednesday, April 12

8:30 a.m. Spotting and Analyzing Claims of Self-Defense  
*Rocky Jones, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Dallas County*  
 9:45 a.m. Working with Imperfect Victims and Witnesses  
*Brian Baker, First Asst. District Attorney, Brazos County*  
 11:00 a.m. Multiple Defendants: Accentuating the Positive  
*Kevin Petroff, First Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Galveston County*  
 Noon Lunch (provided by TDCAA)  
 1:30 p.m. Eyewitness Identification  
*John Wakefield, Asst. District Attorney, Harris County*  
 2:45 p.m. DNA: Science and Issues  
*Lisa Tanner, Assistant Attorney General, Austin*  
 4:00 p.m. Weapons! Would You Like to Know More?  
*Bill Wirsky, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Collin County*  
 5:00 p.m. Adjourn

## Thursday, April 13

### Sexual Assault Track

8:30 a.m. Sexual Assault in Texas: An Advocate’s Perspective  
 9:45 a.m. Consent as a Defense  
*Allenna Bangs, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Tarrant County*  
 11:00 a.m. Campus Issues  
*Hillary LaBorde, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, McLennan County*  
 Noon Lunch (on your own)

### Child Victims Track

1:30 p.m. Charging Decisions: Strategy and Logistics  
*Zeke Fortenberry, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Collin County*  
 2:45 p.m. Child Witness Experts  
*Celeste Byrom, Asst. District Attorney, Harris County*  
 4:00 p.m. Key Legal Concepts in Child Victim Cases  
*Shanna Redwine & Jeff Hohl, Asst. District Attorneys, Montgomery County*  
 5:00 p.m. Adjourn

### Domestic Violence Track

8:30 a.m. Determining the Dominant Aggressor  
*Kim Piechowiak, Domestic Violence Training Attorney, Office of Court Administration, Austin*  
 9:45 a.m. Jury Selection in Intimate Partner Cases  
*Melinda Westmoreland, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Tarrant County*  
 11:00 a.m. Reluctant Victims  
*Staley Heatly, 46th Judicial District Attorney*  
 Noon Lunch (on your own)

### Domestic Violence Track

1:30 p.m. Forfeiture by Wrongdoing  
*Stephanie Fargo, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Dallas County*  
 2:45 p.m. Art. 38.371 & Punishment Evidence  
*Lisa Stewart, Asst. District Attorney, Montgomery County*  
 4:00 p.m. Trial, Plea, Diversion, or Dismissal  
*Brandi Mitchell, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Dallas County*  
 5:00 p.m. Adjourn

## Friday, April 14

9:00 a.m. Doing More with Less: A Panel Discussion  
*Moderated by Melinda Westmoreland, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Tarrant County*  
 10:45 a.m. Punishment and Victim Impact  
*Ryan Calvert, Asst. District Attorney, Brazos County*  
 Noon Adjourn

### Payment options:

- \$350 Registration** (\$175 Registration fee + \$175 Association fee): For CAs, DAs, CDAs, C&DAs, and their office personnel. The 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 Monday reception and lunch on Tuesday and Thursday.
- \$175 “Training Only” Registration:** For CAs, DAs, CDAs C&DAs and their office personnel. This fee does not allow an attendee to participate in receptions or lunches but entitles the attendee admittance to all training sessions.
- \$500 Registration:** For everyone else.