

T D C A A

# Advanced Trial Advocacy Course

Adult Sexual Assault

Baylor Law School

Waco, TX

July 26-30, 2021

22 hours of MCLE credit, including 1 hour of ethics



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Texas District & County Attorneys Association  
505 W. 12th St., Ste. 100  
Austin, TX 78701

# Advanced Trial Advocacy Course Information

**T**DCAA's Advanced Trial Advocacy Course is designed for prosecutors with at least three to five years of trial experience who want to prepare and participate in a hands-on course to increase their effectiveness in trial. Upon acceptance, all participants will receive a detailed packet of instructions and a felony case scenario that will form the basis of the presentations, faculty demonstrations, workshops, and courtroom performances. Each participant is responsible for the entire case scenario, although individual performances may involve only a particular aspect of the case. Upon arrival, participants will be assigned to one of the law school's practice courtrooms with a smaller group of eight participants and experienced faculty advisors who will guide the group discussions and provide critiques of each participant's live and recorded performances. This year, participants will focus on an adult sexual assault case to learn how to address many of the challenges stemming from these types of cases.

**Attendance:** Attendance is limited to 32 prosecutors. All applications must be received by **July 2, 2021**. No walk-in registrations will be accepted under any circumstances. Upon acceptance, participants will receive confirmation, informational packets, and detailed felony case scenarios via email. Advance preparation and full-week participation are required. Applicants who are not accepted for this course will be put on a waiting list and have first priority in case of cancellations. **Any attendee substitutions must be submitted to and approved by TDCAA.**

**Registration and fees:** There is no fee for attending this course. TDCAA will pay for the hotel and reimburse your travel at 45¢ a mile. Participants will receive a \$30 per diem reimbursement for meals, which are on your own. All participants will stay at the Aloft Waco, 900 S. 11th Street., in Waco, TX 76706. Classes are a short drive to the Baylor University Law School, which is located at 1114 South University Parks Drive, Waco, TX 76706. **Upon acceptance, TDCAA will make hotel reservations for all participants. Do not call the hotel directly.** Rooms are reserved beginning Sunday, July 25, with departure on Friday, July 30. If you do NOT need the hotel room on Sunday night and plan to check in Monday instead, please let Andie Peters know by replying to your initial acceptance email from us. All incidental expenses, including room upgrades, double occupancy, room service, movie rentals, etc., are your own.

**Attire:** On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, courtroom attire is required. On Friday, business casual dress is acceptable.

**CLE:** TDCAA has applied to the State Bar of Texas for 22 hours of MCLE credit, including 1 hour of ethics training for participation in this course.

**Registration for this course and other information is at [tdcaa.com](http://tdcaa.com).**

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

# Advanced Trial Advocacy Course Curriculum

## Monday, July 26 (courtroom attire)

- 9:00 a.m. Registration Opens  
*(Course Director Allenna Bangs will be available for questions about the case file, and faculty will be available in their assigned courtrooms.)*
- 10:00 a.m. Welcome and Course Introduction
- 10:15 a.m. Charging Decisions
- 11:00 a.m. Jury Selection
- Noon Lunch (on your own)
- 1:30 p.m. Consent
- 3:15 p.m. Performance: Jury Selection
- Adjourn At the end of the exercise

## Tuesday, July 27 (courtroom attire)

- 9:00 a.m. Defenses & Protecting Your Victim
- 10:15 a.m. Opening Statement Strategies
- 11:00 a.m. Performance: Opening Statements
- Noon Lunch (on your own)
- 1:30 p.m. Presenting the Case
- 3:15 p.m. Prosecuting in the Digital Age
- 4:45 p.m. Course Witness Preparation
- Adjourn At the end of the exercise
- 6:30 p.m. Dinner at Ninfa's Mexican Restaurant  
(provided by TDCAA)

## Wednesday, July 28 (courtroom attire)

- 9:00 a.m. SANE: Direct of Experts & Sexual Abuse Dynamics
- 10:15 a.m. Performance: Direct Exam and Q&A
- Adjourn At the Conclusion of Direct Exams; FA Group Lunch and Q&A

## Thursday, July 29 (courtroom attire)

- 9:00 a.m. Cross Examination
- 10:15 a.m. Performance: Cross-Examination
- Noon Lunch (on your own)
- 1:30 p.m. Closing Argument and Punishment
- 3:15 p.m. Performance: Closing Argument at Guilt/Innocence
- 4:15 p.m. Performance: Closing Argument at Punishment
- Adjourn At the end of the exercise

## Friday, July 30 (casual attire)

- 9:00 a.m. Sexual Assault & Other Dynamics
- 10:00 a.m. Case Study
- 11:00 a.m. Ethical Issues in Sexual Assault:  
*Brady & Beyond*
- Adjourn At the end of the exercise

The 2021 Advanced Trial Advocacy Course Director is **Allenna Bangs, Asst. Criminal District Attorney in Tarrant County**. Curriculum for this course is built around an actual criminal case. As such, attendees are expected to treat case materials with the same professionalism as they would to a case assigned in their home jurisdiction. Other faculty include:

Brian Baker, Brazos County DA's Office  
Celeste Byrom, Harris County DA's Office  
Jen Falk, Dallas County CDA's Office  
Sarah Moore, Ector County DA's Office  
Grace Pandithurai, Ellis County C&DA's Office  
Angelica Powers, Bexar County CDA's Office

Tiana Sanford, Montgomery County DA's Office  
Scott Simpson, Medina County CDA's Office  
Lisa Stewart, Montgomery County DA's Office  
Beth Toben, Limestone County C&DA's Office  
William Vassar, Tarrant County CDA's Office  
Gary Young, Lamar County C&DA's Office

# TDCAA Registration Form

Advanced Trial Advocacy Course at Baylor Law School  
July 26–30, 2021

**Application Requirements:** For consideration, you must complete this form in its entirety. Incomplete forms will be returned. Please type or print and sign your form. Applications must be received via fax or email by **July 2**. **Do not do both.** If accepted, applicants will be notified by email and will receive confirmation and information about the course and lodging. This form may be duplicated.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Current assignment \_\_\_\_\_  
Office address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
State Bar card # \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Please check if we do NOT have your permission to distribute your email address to course attendees.

1. What is the approximate size of your jurisdiction?  
(Check the appropriate box.)

- Less than 20,000     20,000–50,000  
 50,001–100,000     100,001–250,000  
 250,001–500,000     Over 500,001

2. How many employees are in your office? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Total years as a prosecutor: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Total number of trials:

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Jury trials:      | Bench trials:     |
| _____ misdemeanor | _____ misdemeanor |
| _____ felony      | _____ felony      |
| _____ civil       | _____ civil       |

5. Charges in the last five completed trials as lead attorney (check all that apply):

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> domestic violence        | <input type="checkbox"/> violent crime        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> property crime           | <input type="checkbox"/> arson                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> juvenile court           | <input type="checkbox"/> DWI                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> white-collar crime       | <input type="checkbox"/> vehicular fatalities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> drug prosecution         | <input type="checkbox"/> sexual assault       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> child abuse/exploitation | <input type="checkbox"/> computer crime       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other _____              |   |

I understand that if I am accepted, my advance preparation and full participation for the week are required.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**NOMINATIONS MUST BE MADE BY THE ELECTED PROSECUTING ATTORNEY IN THE APPLICANT'S JURISDICTION.**

I nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for participation in TDCAA's Advanced Trial Advocacy Course. The information provided in this application is accurate and complete, and the applicant meets the course requirements.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Elected Prosecutor

(Type or print name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

We reserve the right to limit the number of attendees from each jurisdiction. Submission of application does not guarantee acceptance.

**Use one method to return this form:**

**Fax: 512/478-4112 or**

**Email: [Brian.Klas@tdcaa.com](mailto:Brian.Klas@tdcaa.com)**