

Advanced Appellate Advocacy Course

June 9-10 in Austin
July 25-26 in Waco

18.5 hours of MCLE credit, including 1 hour of ethics



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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Advanced Appellate Advocacy Course Information

TDCAA's Advanced Appellate Advocacy Course is designed for prosecutors who are assigned primarily to an appellate caseload or have significant mixed trial and appellate experience who want to prepare and participate in a hands-on course to increase their effectiveness in brief writing and oral argument. Upon acceptance, all participants will receive a packet of instructions and a scenario that will form the basis of the presentations, faculty demonstrations, writing, and courtroom performances.

To facilitate training in both writing and argument, this course is split into two parts. The first two days of training will occur in Austin. In part one, the focus will be on effective research and writing. Part two of the training will also last two days and will be hosted by the Baylor Law School in Waco. During the break between the two halves of training, attendees are expected to hone their brief and prepare for argument. In Waco, participants will be assigned to one of the law school's practice courtrooms with a smaller group of participants and experienced faculty advisors, who will guide the group discussions and provide critiques of each participant's live and recorded performances. Participants will have two opportunities to argue and receive personalized feedback on their written briefs and a recording of their argument.

Attendance: Attendance is limited to 20 prosecutors. All applications must be received by May 16, 2022. No walk-in registrations will be accepted under any circumstances. Upon acceptance, participants will receive confirmation, informational packets, and instructions via email. Advance preparation and full participation are required. Applicants who are not accepted for this course will be put on a waiting list and have priority in case of cancellations. Any attendee substitutions must be submitted to and approved by TDCAA.

Attire: In Austin, business casual dress is acceptable. In Waco, courtroom attire is required.

CLE: TDCAA has applied to the State Bar of Texas for 18.5 hours of MCLE credit, including 1 hour of ethics training for participation in this course.

Registration and fees: Applicants who are admitted to the course will receive a private registration link. A host hotel has been secured for both sites with enough rooms to accommodate attendees. Further information and instructions on how to book these rooms will be included in the emailed notifications of acceptance. TDCAA will reimburse attendees' hotel costs up to the GSA rate. TDCAA will not reimburse for meals, travel, registration fees, hotel tax, parking, taxi costs, or other extraordinary expenses. All other expenses are your own.

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.

\$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.

Advanced Appellate Advocacy Course Curriculum

IN AUSTIN

Thursday, June 9

(business casual attire; 3.75 hours MCLE)

- 11:00 a.m. Registration Opens
(Course directors will be available for questions about the case file.)
- 1:00 p.m. Welcome & Course Introduction
- 1:15 p.m. Case Problem Overview, Expectations, & Answering Questions
- 1:45 p.m. Writing I: The Writing Process & Organizing Your Ideas
- 2:45 p.m. Writing II: Clutter, Clarity, & the Summary of Argument
- 3:30 p.m. Standards of Review, Preservation, & Harm
- 4:30 p.m. TRAP Rules Game Show
- 5:30 p.m. Adjourn to Opening Reception (provided by TDCAA)

Friday, June 10

(business casual attire; 5.5 hours MCLE)

- 8:30 a.m. Appellate Ethics
- 9:30 a.m. Procedural Pitfalls & Exceptional Cases
- 10:30 a.m. Writing III: Effective Responsive Briefs, Including Presentation, Topography, Charts, & Hyperlinks
- 11:15 a.m. Table Discussion
- Noon Lunch (provided by TDCAA)
- 1:30 p.m. Forum: Prosecutor Resources & Engagement
- 2:15 p.m. Collected Tips from the Faculty
- 3:15 p.m. Oral Argument Preparation
- 4:00 p.m. Final Instructions & Adjourn

IN WACO

Monday, July 25

(courtroom attire; 4.25 hours MCLE)

- 11:00 a.m. Faculty Arrival
- Noon Attendees check in and report to assigned rooms
- 12:30 p.m. Cold Panel Argument
(Performance & Evaluation)
- 3:45 p.m. Mr. Curry Goes to Washington
- 4:30 p.m. Oral Advocacy: In Person & Remote
- 5:00 p.m. Adjourn

Tuesday, July 26

(courtroom attire; 5 hours MCLE)

- 8:30 a.m. Hot Panel Argument
(Performance & Evaluation)
- Noon Lunch (on your own)
- 1:30 p.m. PDRs & Responses
in the Court of Criminal Appeals
- 2:00 p.m. Showcase Oral Argument
Two top appellate practitioners argue before a panel of Court of Criminal Appeals judges. Q&A to follow.
- 3:30 p.m. Adjourn

Registration for this course and other information is at tdcaa.com.

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

