

# Advanced Trial Advocacy Course

Sexual Assault of a Child

Baylor Law School

Waco, TX

July 25-29, 2022

22 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 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 a sexual assault of a child 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 1, 2022**. 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 56¢ a mile. Participants will receive a \$55 per diem reimbursement for meals, which are on your own. All participants will stay at the Hilton Waco, 113 S. University Parks Dr., in Waco, TX 76701. 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 24, with departure on Friday, July 29. If you do NOT need the hotel room on Sunday night and plan to check in Monday instead, please let meeting planner 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 25 (courtroom attire)

- 9:00 a.m. Registration Opens  
*(Course Director Sunni Mitchell, ADA in Fort Bend County, will be available for questions about the case file, and faculty will be available in their assigned courtrooms.)*
- 10:00 a.m. Welcome & Course Introduction
- 10:15 a.m. Investigations: The Proactive & Reactive Approach
- Noon Lunch (on your own)
- 1:30 p.m. Charging Decisions
- 2:15 p.m. Jury Selection
- 3:30 p.m. Performance: Jury Selection
- Adjourn At the end of the exercise

## Tuesday, July 26 (courtroom attire)

- 9:00 a.m. Outcry & Other Pre-Trial Hearings
- 10:30 a.m. Preparation & Presenting the Case I
- Noon Lunch (on your own)
- 1:30 p.m. Preparation & Presenting the Case II
- 3:15 p.m. Opening Statements
- 4:30 p.m. Performance: Opening Statements
- Adjourn At the end of the exercise
- 6:30 p.m. Dinner at George O's restaurant  
(provided by TDCAA)

## Wednesday, July 27 (courtroom attire)

- 9:00 a.m. The SANE Expert
- 10:15 a.m. Performance: Direct Exam
- Adjourn At the Conclusion of Direct Exams;  
FAs' Group Lunch and Q&A

## Thursday, July 28 (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 & 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 29 (casual attire)

- 9:00 a.m. *Special* Special Victims
- 10:15 a.m. Self-Care for Child Abuse Prosecutors
- 11:00 a.m. Ethical Issues in Child Sexual Assault:  
*Brady & Beyond*
- Adjourn At the end of the exercise

# TDCAA Registration Form

Advanced Trial Advocacy Course at Baylor Law School  
July 25–29, 2022

**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 1. 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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)**