

Civil Law Conference

May 13-15, 2026

Grapevine

12 hours of MCLE, including 1.5 hours of ethics

**The host hotel: Embassy Suites
Grapevine DFW Airport North
2401 Bass Pro Dr., Grapevine, TX 76051**

Call 972/724-2600 for reservations and mention TDCAA to get the room rate of \$181 (plus tax); this rate is good until April 21 or the block is sold out, whichever comes first.

Civil practitioners are often the ultimate utility players. Their varied workload forces them to pivot from one area of law to another with speed, skill, and purpose. TDCAA's Civil Law Conference is uniquely built for the specialized training, networking, and fellowship necessary for their success. From procedural guidance to an overview of eminent domain, this conference reflects the broad base of knowledge and skills civil practitioners must keep at the ready. Along with our usual updates and discussions, this agenda has something for every prosecutor who carries a civil caseload. With the training, attendees will also have opportunities to liaise with colleagues—making connections and sharing solutions.



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Texas District & County Attorneys Association
505 W. 12th St., Ste. 100
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Civil Law Conference Agenda

Wednesday, May 13 (General Session)

- 1:30 p.m. Welcome & Introductions
1:45 p.m. When the Constable Calls
C. Scott Brumley, County Attorney, Potter County
3:30 p.m. Cyber Security
*LaNetra Lary, Asst. County Attorney, Fort Bend County, &
Thomas Wilson, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Smith County*
5:00 p.m. Adjourn to Opening Reception (provided by TDCAA)

Thursday, May 14

Track 1

- 8:30 a.m. Outstanding Civil Law Topic
9:45 a.m. §1983 Update
*Deborah Bonner, Asst. County & District Attorney,
Ellis County*
11:00 a.m. What Immunity by Which Capacity?
*David Hudson, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Tarrant
County (retired), & Katie Owens, Asst. Criminal District
Attorney, Tarrant County*
Noon Hot Lunch (provided by TDCAA)

Track 3

- 1:30 p.m. Employment Law Update
Leslie Dippel, Asst. County Attorney, Travis County
2:45 p.m. Employment Law: Setting Policy & Advising
*Amy Davidson, First Asst. County Attorney,
Montgomery County*
4:00 p.m. The Sheriff's Office: Top 5 Policy
Considerations
*Jose Salayandia & Jakob Reynolds, Asst. County Attorneys,
El Paso County*
5:00 p.m. Adjourn

Track 2

- 8:30 a.m. Eminent Domain
*Rolf Krueger & Sal LoPiccolo, Asst. County Attorneys,
Fort Bend County*
9:45 a.m. Eminent Domain (cont'd)
11:00 a.m. Top Impermissible Government
Contract Terms
*Soo Nam & Tina Patel, Asst. Criminal District Attorneys,
Dallas County*
Noon Hot Lunch (provided by TDCAA)

Track 4

- 1:30 p.m. Commissioners Court: Ensuring Proper
Procedure
Sara Forlano, Asst. County Attorney, Montgomery County
2:45 p.m. Sovereign Citizens
Dwayne Simpson, Asst. County Attorney, Chambers County
4:00 p.m. Jail Contraband & Constitutional Protections
Carlos Madrid, Asst. County Attorney, El Paso County
5:00 p.m. Adjourn

Friday, May 15 (General Session)

- 9:00 a.m. Landmines: Conflicts Between Civil & Criminal Divisions
Ariane Flores, Asst. County Attorney, Williamson County
10:45 a.m. Forum: Recruitment & Retention
Moderated by Michelle Turner, First Asst. County Attorney, Fort Bend County
12:30 p.m. Adjourn

Payment options:

- \$500 Registration** (\$250 Registration fee + \$250 Association fee): For CAs, DAs, CDAs, C&DAs, and their office personnel. The TDCAA fee of \$250 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 Wednesday's reception and lunch on Thursday.
- \$250 "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.
- \$750 Registration:** For everyone else.

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

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