

Prosecutor Trial Skills Course

July 9-14, 2023

Austin

27.25 hours of MCLE, including 3 hours of ethics

**The host hotel:
Sheraton Capitol Hotel
701 E. 11th St.
Austin, TX 78701
888/627-8349**

Rooms are \$145 plus tax; this rate is good until June 21 or the block is sold out, whichever comes first.

Anyone who is new to a prosecutor's office should plan to attend the Texas District and County Attorneys Association's Prosecutor Trial Skills Course this July in Austin. It's a full week of intensive training that prepares new prosecutors for their work both in the courtroom and out. Seasoned faculty advisors are assigned to small groups of attendees to answer questions and direct discussions at each table, and jury selection and opening statement are demonstrated by veteran prosecutors. New prosecutors won't want to miss this intensive, high-quality training customized especially for them!

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.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTIN, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 1557

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

Prosecutor Trial Skills Course Agenda

Sunday, July 9 (2 hours CLE)

- 4:00 p.m. **Welcome & Course Introduction**
4:15 p.m. **The Ethical Prosecutor**
W. Clay Abbott, TDCAA DWI Resource Prosecutor, Austin
4:30 p.m. **Case Scenario / Group Introductions**
Faculty Directed at Each Table
6:15 p.m. **Adjourn to Opening Reception**
(provided by TDCAA)

Monday, July 10 (6.75 hours CLE)

- 9:00 a.m. **Identifying & Overcoming Cognitive Bias**
Jarvis Parsons, District Attorney, Brazos County
10:30 a.m. **Pre-Trial Issues**
11:30 a.m. **Faculty Discussion:**
How Does Your County Work?
Faculty Directed at Each Table
Noon **Lunch (provided by TDCAA)**
1:00 p.m. **The Evidence Primer**
Chris Gatewood, First Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Smith County
2:15 p.m. **Nuts and Bolts of Jury Selection**
By Ronny Dale Smith, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Tarrant County
3:45 p.m. **Peremptory Strikes and Batson Challenges**
Glen Fitzmartin, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Dallas County
4:30 p.m. **Case Scenarios**
Faculty Directed at Each Table
5:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

Tuesday, July 11 (6.25 hours CLE)

- 9:00 a.m. **DWI Caselaw Update**
Jessica Frazier, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Comal County
10:45 a.m. **Hearings on Motions to Suppress**
Noon **Lunch (provided by TDCAA)**
1:00 p.m. **Case Scenarios**
Faculty Directed at Each Table
2:15 p.m. **Effective Opening Statements**
Allen Otto, Asst. District Attorney, Harris County
3:45 p.m. **Your VAC and You**
Jalayne Robinson, LMSW, TDCAA Victim Services Director
4:15 p.m. **Case Scenarios**
Faculty Directed at Each Table
5:00 p.m. **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 Sunday's reception and lunch on Monday, 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.

Wednesday, July 12 (3 hours CLE)

- 9:00 a.m. **DWI: Presenting the Case**
Mariel Puryear, Asst. County Attorney, Williamson County
10:45 a.m. **Domestic Violence: Presenting the Case**
Kristin Burns, Asst. District Attorney, Brazos County
12:15 p.m. **Adjourn**

Thursday, July 13 (6.5 hours CLE)

- 9:00 a.m. **Punishment Evidence**
Herschel Woods, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Dallas County
10:15 a.m. **Case Scenarios**
Faculty Directed at Each Table
11:00 a.m. **Probation Revocation Hearings**
Nicole Washington, Asst. District Attorney, Liberty County
Noon **Lunch (provided by TDCAA)**
1:00 p.m. **Plea Negotiation & Plea Bargaining Workshop**
3:15 p.m. **Predicates & Objections**
Erik Nielsen, Asst. District Attorney, Travis County
4:15 p.m. **Case Scenarios**
Faculty Directed at Each Table
5:00 p.m. **Adjourn**

5:00–5:45 p.m. Optional Class C Forum

W. Clay Abbott, TDCAA DWI Resource Attorney, Austin
This session is an opportunity for attendees who practice in justice or municipal courts to discuss current trends and issues they face in their practice. Attendance at this session is optional and no MCLE credit will be provided.

Friday, July 14 (2.75 hours CLE)

- 9:00 a.m. **Cross-Examination and Impeachment**
Lisa Stewart, Asst. District Attorney, Montgomery County
10:30 a.m. **Final Argument**
John Jordan, Asst. District Attorney, Harris County
Noon **Adjourn**