

T D C A A

Prosecutor Trial Skills Course

January 8–13, 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 (good until December 19 or the block is sold out, whichever is first). Mention TDCAA to get this rate.

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 January 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.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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Prosecutor Trial Skills Course Agenda

Sunday, January 8 (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
6:00 p.m. Case Scenario / Group Introductions
Faculty Directed at Each Table
6:15 p.m. Adjourn to Opening Reception
(provided by TDCAA)

Monday, January 9 (6.75 hours CLE)

- 9:00 a.m. DWI Caselaw Update
Jessica Frazier, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Comal 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
Britt Lindsey, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Taylor County
2:15 p.m. Nuts and Bolts of Jury Selection
Grace Pandithurai, Asst. County & District Attorney, Ellis 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, January 10 (6.25 hours CLE)

- 9:00 a.m. Hearings on Motions to Suppress
Jack Choate, Special Prosecution Unit Executive Director, Huntsville, & Phil Hall, Asst. Criminal District Attorney in Bastrop County
11:30 a.m. Case Scenarios
Faculty Directed at Each Table
Noon Lunch (provided by TDCAA)
1:00 p.m. Identifying & Overcoming Cognitive Bias
Jarvis Parsons, District Attorney, Brazos County
2:15 p.m. Effective Opening Statements
Sunni Mitchell, Asst. District Attorney, Fort Bend County

Tuesday, January 10 (cont'd)

- 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

Wednesday, January 11 (3 hours CLE)

- 9:00 a.m. DWI: Presenting the Case
Kayla Allen, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Galveston County
10:45 a.m. Domestic Violence: Presenting the Case
Allenna Bangs, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Tarrant County
12:15 p.m. Adjourn

Thursday, January 12 (6.5 hours CLE)

- 9:00 a.m. Punishment Evidence
Jerry Varney, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Dallas County
10:15 a.m. Case Scenarios
Faculty Directed at Each Table
11:00 a.m. Probation Revocation Hearings
Noon Lunch (provided by TDCAA)
1:00 p.m. Plea Negotiation & Plea Bargaining Workshop
Tiana Sanford, Asst. District Attorney, Montgomery County
3:15 p.m. Predicates & Objections
Chandler Raine, Asst. District Attorney, Harris 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, January 13 (2.75 hours CLE)

- 9:00 a.m. Cross-Examination and Impeachment
Dewey Mitchell, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Collin County
10:30 a.m. Final Argument
John Jordan, Asst. District Attorney, Harris County
Noon 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.