



TEXAS DISTRICT & COUNTY ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION

2017 Advanced Trial Advocacy Course

Baylor Law School
Waco, Texas | July 31 - August 4, 2017

CLE Number: 928006035
22 total CLE hours including 1 hour ethics

Note: Courtroom attire is required every day except Friday

Monday, July 31

- 9:00 a.m.** **Registration Opens**
(Ronny Dale, Clay and Brian are available for questions about case file)
- 10:00 a.m.** **Welcome and Course Introduction**
- 10:15 a.m.** **Charging Decisions: Choosing the Right Indictment**
Rick Daniel, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Denton County
- 11:00 a.m.** **Jury Selection**
Melinda Westmoreland, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Tarrant County
- Noon** **Lunch** (*on your own*)
- 1:30 p.m.** **Effective use of Experts**
Jamye Coffman, MD, Medical Director C.A.R.E. Team, Cook Children's Medical Center

3:30 p.m. Break

3:45 p.m. *Performance: Jury Selection*

Adjourn At the end of the exercise

Tuesday, August 1

9:00 a.m. Presenting the Evidence
Ronny Dale Smith II, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Tarrant County

10:00 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. Opening Statement Strategies
Justin Wood, Asst. District Attorney, Travis County

11:00 a.m. *Performance: Opening Statements*

Noon Lunch (on your own)

1:30 p.m. Evidence Collection and Preparation
Kelly Blackburn & Sheri Culberson, Asst. District Attorneys, Montgomery County

2:30 p.m. Break

2:45 p.m. Evidence Collection and Preparation Continued

3:45 p.m. Break

4:00 p.m. Law Enforcement Context
Grant Gildon, Detective, Arlington Police Department

Adjourn At the end of the exercise

6:30pm Dinner, Ninfa's Mexican Restaurant (*provided by TDCAA*)

Wednesday, August 2

9:00 a.m. Tactical Use of Evidence
Scott Simpson, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Bexar County

10:00 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. ***Performance: Direct Exam***
Includes fifteen minutes to meet as group with witnesses

Lunch At Conclusion of Direct Exams, FA's groups lunch and Q&A

Thursday, August 3

9:00 a.m. **Cross Examination [45 minutes of training with 2 speakers and 15 minutes of direct on defense witnesses to get set for upcoming performance]**
Sunni Mitchell, Asst. District Attorney, Williamson County

10:00 a.m. **Break**

10:15 a.m. ***Performance: Cross-Examination***

Noon **Lunch**

1:30 p.m. **Closing Argument and Punishment**
Brian Baker, First Asst. District Attorney, Brazos County

3:00 p.m. **Break**

3:15 p.m. ***Performance: Closing Argument Guilt/Innocence***

4:00 p.m. **Break**

4:15 p.m. ***Performance: Closing Argument Punishment***

Adjourn **At the end of the exercise**

Friday, August 4

9:00 a.m. **Case Law Update**
Sunshine Stanek, Asst. Criminal District Attorney, Lubbock County

10:00 a.m. **Break**

10:15 a.m. **Ethical Issues in Child Fatality Cases: *Brady* and Beyond**
Clay Abbot, TDCAA, Austin

11:15 a.m. **Best Practices in Groups**

Adjourn **At the end of the exercise**