

# Elected Prosecutor Conference December 4-6, 2024 The Woodlands

12 hours of MCLE, including 2.75 hours of ethics

**The host hotel:  
Waterway Marriott  
1601 Lake Robbins Dr.  
The Woodlands, TX 77380  
281/367-9797**

**Rooms are \$229 plus tax; this rate is good until November 12 or the block is sold out, whichever comes first.**

If you are an elected county or district attorney or a first assistant, you'll want to attend our Elected Prosecutor Conference this December. Specifically geared toward the leadership of prosecutor offices, this course will cover topics essential for day to day operations with an eye to the future. Coverage is sweeping and includes talks covering organized retail theft, the implementation of artificial intelligence tools, connections between domestic violence and mass violence, discovery, and much more. You won't want to miss it!

**Registration for this conference and other information is at [tdcaa.com](http://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.*



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# Elected Prosecutor Conference Agenda

## Newly-Elected Prosecutor Boot Camp (by invitation only): Tuesday and Wednesday, December 3 & 4 \*\*4.75 hours of (separate) CLE credit\*\*

*This session is for newly elected prosecutors who have either recently taken office or who will take office on January 1. Its purpose is to prepare them for the challenges of being the community's chief law enforcement officer and running a modern prosecutor office. Taught by experienced county and district attorneys, it runs from 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, then from 9 a.m. to noon on Wednesday.*

### Wednesday, December 4

#### 1:00 p.m. Welcome & Introduction

#### 1:15 p.m. Organized Retail Theft

*Far from the familiar impulse criminality common to misdemeanor shoplifting, organized retail theft undermines public trust and massively impacts business. This opening session explores the scope of and possible solutions to this growing concern.*

#### 2:30 p.m. Artificial Intelligence

*Once confined to the imagination of science fiction authors, today's advances in AI continue to march from theoretical to practical. These new tools are increasingly implemented within the criminal justice system. Here, presenters discuss real risks associated with this implementation and how prosecutors can better marshal the efficiency-multiplying power of AI.*

#### 4:15 p.m. We are Here to Help! Resources for Prosecutors

*Whether we know it or not, many agencies and authorities are willing to help prosecutors in their pursuit of justice. In this talk, TDCAA will identify and briefly discuss the agencies and operations that offer those helping hands. Additionally, representatives from the Comptroller, SPU, State Prosecuting Attorney's Office, TCDRS, TDI, NICB, and DPS Crime Lab will be on site to answer your questions.*

#### 5:00 p.m. Adjourn // TDCAA Annual Business Meeting

#### 5:15 p.m. Reception (provided by TDCAF in honor of the Texas Prosecutors Society's Class of 2024)

### Thursday, December 5

#### 8:30 a.m. Going Berserk, Running Amok, or Following Scripts

*For elected prosecutors, determining which cases to spend their limited resources on will fundamentally shape public safety in their communities. Compounding the wisdom of experience with an expanding knowledge base aids in choosing which instances of criminal behavior require increased prosecutorial focus. To that end, the morning is reserved for renowned behavioral scientist, Dr. Matt Logan.*

*He will discuss the expanding body of evidence which connects domestic violence and incidents of mass violence.*

#### Noon Lunch (provided by TDCAA)

#### 1:30 p.m. Writs of Mandamus & Prohibition

*From bear mace to defibrillators, the world is full of tools you hope to never use. The time to familiarize yourself with those tools, however, is before you need them. Writs of mandamus and prohibition are such tools. In this hour, we'll cover the ins and outs of these special writs in hopes you never need them.*

#### 2:45 p.m. TDCJ Virtual Courts Program

*Finding new ways to save time and increase productivity is a common pastime for every entity in the criminal justice system. In this half hour, attendees will learn about TDCJ's virtual court program and how the Department hopes to use it to decrease inmate travel.*

#### 3:30 p.m. District Attorney Forums

*Moderated by: Staley Heatly, 46th Judicial District Attorney, & Kenda Culpepper, Criminal District Attorney, Rockwall County*

#### County Attorney Forum

*Moderated by: Eddie Arredondo, County Attorney, & Colleen Davis, First Assistant County Attorney, Burnet County*

#### 5:00 p.m. Adjourn

### Friday, December 6

#### 9:00 a.m. Update: Supervision & the DRPC

*Changes to the disciplinary rules create new avenues for prosecutors to inadvertently run afoul of their ethical obligations. Forewarned is forearmed. Here, we will cover the newest changes to the rules and how those changes affect prosecutors who fill a supervisory role.*

#### 10:45 a.m. Leadership & Ethical Discovery

*As caselaw surrounding the Michael Morton Act continues to evolve, it is crucial that elected prosecutors stay vigilant and willing to recalibrate their discovery processes as necessary. This talk will discuss changes to the law and how those changes impact Texas prosecutors.*

#### 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 Thursday's lunch and reception.

**\$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.