



## Welcome to **RURAL ROUNDTABLES!**

Join us for a **Rural Roundtable** presentation followed by open discussion. Free for Members. Open to all. Forward to a colleague.

**Presentation:** Dynamic Perspective on Prosecutors

**Presenter:** William Hon & Shane Phelps

**Date:** Tuesday, February 10, 2026

**Time:** 12:00 – 1:00 pm

**CLE:** 0, 0 ethics

**Overview:** This session offers an in-depth look at the modern role of prosecutors and how their decisions shape the criminal justice system. From evolving charging philosophies to shifting approaches in plea negotiations, attendees will explore the motivations, pressures, and policy trends influencing prosecutorial discretion. Gain insight into how prosecutors evaluate cases, manage caseloads, and balance community safety with fairness, and learn strategies for more effective advocacy when engaging with them.

**Bio:** Shane Phelps is a Board-Certified criminal defense attorney based in the Bryan/College Station area and the founder and lead attorney at Shane Phelps Law. Shane is a former United States Marine and a graduate of Rice University and the University Of Texas School Of Law. After graduating from law school in 1987, Shane served as a Harris County Assistant District Attorney for three years. In 1990, he joined the Texas Attorney General's Office and headed the Prosecutor Assistance and Special Investigations Division until 1995. In 1999, Shane was appointed Deputy Attorney General for Criminal Justice for Texas by then newly elected Attorney General John Cornyn. In 2001, Shane and his wife, Jean, moved to Bryan/College Station and Shane served as First Assistant District Attorney in Brazos County until 2011 when he left the office to start his private practice. In his 34 years of practice, Shane has tried more than 250 jury trials. Shane serves on the board of directors of TCDLA, is a TCDLEI Super Fellow, a Fellow of the College of the State Bar, and a Forensic Lawyer-Scientist. Shane has served as president of the Brazos County Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and is the organizer of the annual Declaration of Independence Reading in Brazos County. Shane has appeared on Dateline NBC, Snapped, Killer Couples, and has made scores of appearances on television as legal analyst for KBTX-TV. Over his career, Shane has lectured prosecutors, law enforcement officers, members of the public, and defense attorneys on trial advocacy, ethics, search and seizure law, and the death penalty. Shane and Jean live in College Station. Their daughter, Mary Claire, is a biology major in her first year at Gonzaga University. Shane is an avid amateur photographer and his office in Bryan is lined with certified vintage comic books.

**Bio:** William Lee Hon grew up in East Texas and spent over 25 years seeking justice for the people of Polk County and East Texas. He is a graduate of Livingston High School and received his Bachelor of Science Degree from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. He attended the University of Mississippi Law School in Oxford, Mississippi graduating in 1990. During law school Lee served with distinction on the editorial staff of the University of Mississippi Law Journal and as a member of the 1990 University of Mississippi National Trial Competition Team.

Following law school Lee worked with the prestigious Campbell, DeLong Law Firm in Greenville, Mississippi—the oldest continuing law partnership in that state—and practiced general civil litigation, personal injury defense, banking and bankruptcy litigation.

In 1994 Lee returned to his native Texas and was appointed Assistant Attorney General for the State of Texas and assigned to the Law Enforcement Defense Division in Austin, Texas. During his tenure as Assistant Attorney General, Lee routinely appeared in federal courts across the State of Texas on behalf of various state law enforcement agencies.