



TEXAS CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

GUARDIANS OF SACRED JUSTICE

SEMINAR INFORMATION

Date: Friday, January 23, 2026

Location: Hilton Waco, 113 S. University Parks Dr., Waco, TX 76701

Course Directors: Zach Boyd, Paul Harrell, Steve Keathley, & Thomas Wynne

Total CLE Hours: 6.00 Ethics: 1.00

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Time	CLE	Topic	Speaker
7:45 am		<i>Registration</i>	
8:00 am		<i>Opening Remarks</i>	Course Directors
8:15 am	0.75	Pre-trial Investigation/Mitigation One must prepare and investigate your case to help your client and protect their rights. Additionally, by doing so, you will also be able to prepare mitigation in case of punishment.	Kameron Johnson
9:00 am	1.00	Jury Selection You are in trial due to negotiations breaking down or being unsuccessful. That is ok, not all cases can be negotiated. Now what? Jury selection: This is where you will speak with the panel about all those sacred rights everyone has and through your preparation begin laying the groundwork for your trial theme.	Jason Parrish
10:00 am		<i>Break</i>	
10:15 am	0.75	Opening & Closing Weave your theme through your case and pepper it with those sacred rights to help the jury understand where the state has gone wrong.	Lara Bracamonte Davila
11:00 am	0.75	Technology How to make technology work for you to help your client.	Amanda Webb
11:45 am		<i>Lunch Line</i>	
12:00 pm	1.00 <i>Ethics</i>	Lunch Presentation: Mental Health & Ethics Guiding your client through the process of the criminal justice system. Guarding your client's privacy and rights, while helping them navigate the system. Making sure to set boundaries and communicating with all types of clients. Recognizing mental health issues in clients – what you need to ask and file.	Kellye Fernandez
1:00 pm		<i>Break</i>	
1:15 pm	0.75	Statutory Defenses How to use them to guard your client, your burden of proof and making them work for your case.	Bryan Cantrell
2:00 pm	1.00	Cross-Examination When guarding clients' rights, the most important thing is to tell their story. Learn the art of doing this through cross-examination.	Kyle Therrian
3:00 pm		<i>Adjourn</i>	