



# TEXAS CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

## CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER TRAINING

### SEMINAR INFORMATION

Date **Tuesday, June 16, 2026**  
Location **Hyatt Regency Hotel, 123 Losoya Street, San Antonio TX**  
Course Director **Ashley De La Garza & Cody Huffman**  
Total CLE Hours **3.75** Ethics: **0.00**

Overview: This is the annual in-person gathering for Texas chief public defenders and Managed Assigned Counsel Directors. These leaders will convene to learn about technology, recruiting, and the defense function, as well as updates from across the State of Texas.

#### Tuesday, June 16, 2026

Daily CLE Hours: **3.75** Ethics: **0.00**

Time	CLE	Topic	Speaker
12:00 pm		<i>Registration</i>	
1:00 pm		<i>Opening Remarks</i>	Scott Ehlers
1:15 pm	1.00	Advocating for Your Priorities: Cultivating and Maintaining Stakeholder Support	James McDermott, Far West Texas Public Defender's Office Nate Walker, Low Income Advocacy Expert
2:15 pm	0.75	Retention: Growing and Keeping Your Team	Karli Kennell, Hill Country Regional Public Defender's Office
3:00 pm		<i>Break</i>	
3:15 pm	1.00	Management: Meaningful & Effective Performance Evaluations	Anthony Benedetti Chief Counsel Commonwealth of Massachusetts Committee for Public Counsel Services
4:15 pm	1.00	Making the Case with Data	Geoff Burkhart, Travis County
5:15 pm		<i>Adjourn</i>	
7:00 pm		Optional Dinner for Chief and Public Defenders (Limited seating RSVP required)	Casa Rio