



# TEXAS CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

## CORE CONCEPTS FOR CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS

### SEMINAR INFORMATION

Date **Wednesday, August 6, 2025**  
 Location **Livestream via Zoom**  
 Course Director **Kyra Leal, Jason Parrish, and Patty Tress**  
 Total CLE Hours **7.25**      Ethics: **1.50**

### Wednesday, August 6, 2025

**CLE: 7.25    Ethics: 1.50**

Time		Topic	Speaker
8:00 am		<b>Opening Remarks</b>	Kyra Leal, Jason Parrish, and Patty Tress
8:00 am	.50	<b>Cocktail Answers:</b> Why We Do What We Do, decline cases, First Generation Lawyer, lawyer lingo, The Do's and Don'ts. What you should wear and how to build a network.	Kyra Leal
8:30 am	.75	<b>Probation/Parole:</b> Who is eligible and how not to get probation – What you need to do if you get probation, know the terms, lengths, and consequences – the difference between deferred, PTI's and probation. When your client is eligible for Parole and rules for time (government code)	Gene Anthes
9:15 am	.25	<b>Additional Updates</b>	Gene Anthes
9:30 am	.75	<b>Collateral Consequences:</b> Including fundamental Crimmigration consequences (PTD), military join or CDL all aspects, class c with family violence, knowing if your client is on parole/probation	Roberto Balli
10:15 am	.50 Ethics	<b>Ethics:</b> How to get paid, retainer agreement, IOTA, advertising, communicating with clients (payments, advertising, fee.)	Paul Tu
10:45 am		<b>Break</b>	
11:00 am	.50	<b>Negotiation Tools:</b> Pretrial vs Deferred, PSI, Grand Jury no packet (have examples), mini grand jury packets for prosecutor, developing relationships with prosecutors – Who you can trust, treating each other right, negotiation strategies.	Aaron Diaz
11:30 am	.50	<b>Know Your Audience:</b> Who to trust, who you need to impress, who cares about your clients, knowing your jurors, how to dress, vacation letters. What are the acronyms – reset, docket setting, pocket setting, individuals in the courtroom – why are the people important, probation, clerks and who to be extra nice to, bailiff, how prosecutors operate, the chief and the second and third; and why and who has the power to do what.	Thuy Le



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12:00 pm *Lunch Break*

12:30 pm 1.00 **Client 101 & How to get 2<sup>nd</sup> Chair Experience:** What you ought to be asking clients, initial interview and questions, holistic defense and keeping your client out of the system, setting boundaries with clients, what to do with behavior – client control, relationship building with the client, sit down in detail client dress, what to do when your client doesn't show up to court. How to get Experience 2nd Chair – organize notes, challenge for cause, how to take notes in voir dire in second chairs, how to get experience as second chair, how to get on the list, court appointments and qualify basics not area specifics. Damon Parrish

1:30 pm *Break*

1:45 pm .50 **Motions vs Notices Practice:** When it has to be a Motion vs Notice Discovery 39.14, filing pretrial motions 20+ and when it's not needed when to file or not file, Directive Verdict Anne Burnham

2:15 pm .75 **Voir Dire Basics:** Basics of Strikes, jury selection, burden of proof, presumption of innocence, range of punishment, essential powerpoint slides. Jason Parrish

3:00 pm .75 **Difficult Cases and Ethical Considerations:** How to deal with these kinds of cases and ethical considerations. True stories of recantations in child sex cases. From looking for your client, going to client's home, sharing with family case items, assisting with mental health clients and what it looks like, burn out, resources available and where to find them for mental health/resources. Patty Tress  
*Ethics*

3:45 pm .50 **Office Management & Marketing**  
Learn how to get clients, organize your office, and marketing 101 Annie Scott

4:15 pm *Adjourn*