

# 4th Annual Dr. Floyd Jennings Mental Health Symposium

Corpus Christi, Texas: August 20-21, 2026: 12.75 CLE including 1.00 Ethics

## Course Directors

Barbara Drumheller – Houston  
Lori Gooch – Houston  
Danice Obregon – Corpus Christi

## Overview

Dr. Floyd Jennings was a trailblazer in mental health advocacy and education in the State of Texas. This training in honor of his memory will equip criminal defense lawyers with practical skills for dealing with clients with mental illness – both through learning how to utilize the processes in the criminal legal system and through learning how to effectively defend their cases.

## Agenda

### Thursday, August 20, 2026

- 8:00 am *Registration & Continental Breakfast*
- 8:45 am *Opening Remarks*
- 9:00 am Guardianship: What to Know & How it Works ~ **Hon. Tim McCoy & Krista Chacona**
- 10:00 am Immigration Consequences of Mental Health Findings in the Criminal Justice System ~ **Liz Hoefer (Ethics)**
- 11:15 am TBD ~ **TBD**
- 12:15 pm *Lunch Presentation: Attorney Wellness & Self-Care ~ Jessica Chevrier*
- 1:00 pm How to Read & Interpret Mental Health Reports ~ **TBD**
- 2:00 pm Using & Examining Mental Health Experts ~ **Damon Parrish**
- 3:15 pm Texas Jail Project ~ **Krish Gundu**
- 4:15 pm *Adjourn*
- 5:15 pm *Optional Tour: Nueces County Diversion Center*

### Friday, August 21, 2026

- 8:30 am *Registration & Continental Breakfast*
- 8:55 am *Opening Remarks*
- 9:00 am Mental Health Legislative Update ~ **Prof. Brian Shannon**
- 10:00 am Civil Commitments in Criminal Courts: 102s & 103s ~ **Barbara Drumheller**
- 11:15 am Whole Person Representation Without a Holistic Budget ~ **Gilan Merwanji**
- 12:30 pm *Lunch Presentation: Mental Health Advocacy ~ Sonja Burns*
- 1:15 pm NGRI Trials & Agreed NGRI Dispositions ~ **Lisa Greenberg**
- 2:30 pm NGRI After Acquittal: Recommitments, Issues & Advocacy ~ **Luis Garcia**
- 3:30 pm Panel on Re-entry: Transitions from Jail or Hospital to the Community ~ **Nueces LMHA, Harris Center, Rural LMHA**
- 4:00 pm *Adjourn*

## Travel Stipends

TCDLA will reimburse travel expenses (flight, Ubers, rental car & fuel, or mileage at the standard mileage-rate) **up to \$500**. Anything beyond that is the registrant's obligation. Registrant should make their own travel arrangements; **reimbursement forms will be provided at the on-site registration.**

## Hotel Stipends & Meeting Location

TCDLA will cover the hotel cost for checking in **Wednesday, 8/19/2026, to checking out Friday, 8/21/2026. Attendees are responsible for calling the hotel and making a room reservation in our block and guaranteeing the room.** TCDLA will move the room to the direct bill upon attendees' arrival. Self-parking is \$10 per a vehicle, per night. Valet \$40.

The meeting will be held at the Omni Corpus Christi, located at 900 N Shoreline Blvd., Corpus Christi, TX 78401. The TCDLA room rate is \$110/\$130 for a single/double room. Call the hotel at (361) 887-1600 and refer to "TCDLA" to receive the group rate. **The group rate is available until August 5, 2026, or until room block is full, whichever occurs first.**

## Registration | Materials

Registration before 8/6/2026	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>\$40</b> (for all classes, meals, and materials) <a href="#">*General Enrollment Information</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Defense Lawyer</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Judge</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Student</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation Specialist</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Paralegal</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Investigator</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Legal Assistant</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Social Worker</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Other</li></ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Vegetarian Meal Option*</b> <small>*No accommodations will be made onsite. If you have dietary needs not covered by the vegetarian option, please contact <a href="mailto:register@tcdla.com">register@tcdla.com</a>.</small>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>\$80</b> (onsite registration after 8/6/2026) <a href="#">*General Enrollment Information</a>

Unable to pay tuition? E-mail [mschank@tcdla.com](mailto:mschank@tcdla.com) to request tuition assistance.

## Register - Payment Must Accompany Registration

**Online** [www.tcdla.com](http://www.tcdla.com)  
**Phone** 512.478.2514  
**Fax** 512.469.0512  
**Email** [register@tcdla.com](mailto:register@tcdla.com)  
**Mail** 6808 Hill Meadow Dr | Austin, TX 78736

# [WWW.TCDLA.COM](http://WWW.TCDLA.COM)

**This course is funded by a grant from the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.**

Law enforcement officers, prosecutors, or special prosecutors MUST request in advance a special exception to this policy be granted by prior approval from the Course Directors and an Officer of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. Requests for consideration MUST be submitted in advance at least 14 days before the seminar begins by emailing [mschank@tcdla.com](mailto:mschank@tcdla.com); no onsite exceptions will be made.

## Contact Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Bar Number \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Join TCDLA #tcdlastrong #onevoice

- New Member or Second-Year Member \$100  
Endorser Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- Renew Membership \$180
- Public Defender \$60
- Prefer not to participate in auto renewal

For your convenience, TCDLA uses AUTO-RENEWAL for all membership dues, using your checking account or credit card. You will be automatically enrolled in the auto renewal program, so you do not have to do anything while continuing to enjoy membership benefits every year! You can always opt out of auto-renewal anytime by simply emailing [mduarte@tcdla.com](mailto:mduarte@tcdla.com) or by checking the opt-out option above.

**Payment**  Check  Credit Card \*4% Convenience Fee will be applied

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_

## General Information

Please read before registering: Because TCDLA cannot sustain its present operations solely with grant funds and the nominal fees it assesses for tuition, meals, and/or travel stipends. The additional voluntary fee, which is deposited as private funds, will be used for expenses that exceed what is allowed under state grant guidelines for participant food and lodging costs as well as staff salaries and benefits.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** To receive a refund-less 10% processing fee-cancellations must be received in writing 14 days prior to the seminar (email [kpreston@tcdla.com](mailto:kpreston@tcdla.com)). Registrants who paid tuition and are not entitled to a refund will receive the course materials. Tuition waiver recipients must attend the program to receive materials. Tax Notice: \$20 of your annual dues (\$19 if a student member) is for a one-year subscription to the VOICE for the Defense. Dues to TCDLA are not deductible as a charitable contribution but may be deducted as an ordinary business expense.

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**MEDIA CONSENT:** I hereby grant permission to the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (TCDLA) to use photographs and/or video of me taken at this event in publications, news releases, online, and in other communications related to the mission of TCDLA.