

# 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Round Top: Advanced Trial Academy

Round Top Festival Institute, Round Top, TX | September 17 - 20, 2025 | 26.00 CLE including 1.00 Ethics

**Space is Limited!**

## Course Directors

Stan Schneider, Houston  
Monique Sparks, Houston

## Overview

This is an intensive four-day course designed to teach methods and techniques that improve a trial lawyer's ability to discover their client's story and how to effectively communicate their story to the jury, judge, or prosecutor. This is not a traditional CLE with PowerPoints and presentations; instead, this course involves a hands-on approach to bettering your trial skills through group work with fellow attorneys. The course incorporates concepts from psychodrama which aid in discovering the story of the client by putting the story into action. By reenacting events of a case with fellow lawyers, the course will allow the trial lawyer to develop skills to strengthen their opening statements, cross-examination, direct questioning, and closing arguments. The training involves a component of self-exploration which helps to improve and enhance the trial lawyer's ability to communicate with juries. Should you have any questions about the course or the concept of psychodrama, feel free to contact one of the course directors.

## Location

Round Top Festival Institute, 248 Jaster Rd. Round Top, TX 78954

## Included in Registration

Registration includes rooms (double occupancy) and meals. **TCDLA will handle reserving rooms. Space is limited.**

## Registration

Double Occupancy & Meals - \$150

Preferred Roommate: \_\_\_\_\_

Single Occupancy - \$528

Vegetarian Meal Options

Other Meal Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Add On, Lunch to Go Saturday - Complimentary

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

## Agenda

### Wednesday, September 17, 2025

2:00pm– *Student Check In*  
5:00pm  
5:30 pm *Dinner Provided & Faculty Meeting*  
7:00 pm Introductions  
Group Work – Psychodramatist  
9:30 pm *Adjourn*

### Thursday, September 18, 2025

7:30 am *Breakfast Provided*  
9:00 am Psychodramas  
12:00 pm *Lunch Provided*  
2:00 pm Psychodramatist  
5:30 pm *Dinner Provided & Faculty Meeting*  
7:00 pm Big Group: Discovering the Story  
Training for your Opening Statement  
and Closing Argument  
9:30 pm *Adjourn*

### Friday, September 19, 2025

7:30 am *Breakfast Provided*  
9:00 am Breakout Sessions ~ Training Staff  
12:00 pm *Lunch Provided & Faculty Meeting*  
2:00 pm Breakout Sessions  
5:30 pm *Dinner Provided & Faculty Meeting*  
7:00 pm Breakout Sessions  
9:00 pm *Adjourn*

### Saturday, September 20, 2025

7:30 am *Breakfast provided*  
9:00 am Breakout Sessions ~ Training Staff  
11:00 am Closing Session ~ Training Staff  
12:00 pm *Adjourn - Lunch on own or bagged lunch*

[www.tcdla.com](http://www.tcdla.com)

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

## Contact Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

## Join TCDLA

**TCDLA Membership Fees** (*renew or join as a new member*)

New Member or Second-Year Member \$100

Endorser Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Renew Membership \$180

Public Defender \$60

prefer not to participate in auto renewal

**Total Payment: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

## Card Required

(CASH IS NOT ACCEPTED)

Payment type:  Credit Card  Check

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

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

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

## General Information

NOTE: Please read before registering: you may not register for this program if you are, or are working for, or are affiliated, clerking or interning with: a full-time law enforcement officer, a full or part-time state or federal prosecutor, or if you are a full or part-time criminal defense attorney who is currently acting as a prosecutor or special prosecutor in a capital case. CDLP programs are for criminal defense lawyers and supporting staff who regularly represent indigent Defendants. (unfortunately, no exceptions).

\*Tuition will be used to cover future expenses of TCDLA's grant programs or to provide for items that the grant cannot sufficiently cover. \*\*Voluntary contributions go to support The Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (TCDLA), a nonprofit organization, and will go directly to TCDLA's private fund account.

**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.

By registering, you acknowledge that an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. By attending the TCDLA Events, you and any guests voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19 and agree not to hold the TCDLA, or any of their affiliates