



# TEXAS CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

GUARDIANS OF SACRED JUSTICE

## SEMINAR INFORMATION

Date: Friday, September 19, 2025

Location: Inn on Barons Creek, 308 S. Washington Street, Fredericksburg, TX 78624

Course Directors: Garrett Cleveland, Harold Danford, & Patty Tress

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	<b>Pre-trial Investigation/Mitigation</b>   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.	Oliver Neel
9:00 am	1.00	<b>Jury Selection</b>   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.	Laurie Key
10:00 am		<i>Break</i>	
10:15 am	0.75	<b>Opening &amp; Closing</b>   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	<b>Technology</b>   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>	<b>Lunch Presentation: Mental Health &amp; Ethics</b>   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	<b>Statutory Defenses</b>   How to use them to guard your client, your burden of proof and making them work for your case.	Andrew Decker
2:00 pm	1.00	<b>Cross-Examination</b>   When guarding clients' rights, the most important thing is to tell their story. Learn the art of doing this through cross-examination.	Steve Brand
3:00 pm		<i>Adjourn</i>	