

TCDLA Innocence for Students & 23rd Annual Forensics

Co-sponsored with the Innocence Project of Texas

October 14-16, 2026 | Austin, TX

Register Now – FREE Seminar, Housing, Breakfast & Lunch, & Travel Stipend – Limited Attendance

Course Directors:

Innocence - Mike Ware - Fort Worth
Forensics - Angelica Cogliano - Austin,
Rob Cowie - Weatherford, Roger Smotts - Dallas,
& Rick Wardroup - Taos, NM

Overview

Join us on October 14, 2026, at 7 PM for an Innocence dinner—the powerful story of Joe David Padron’s wrongful conviction and his fight for justice. Then stay the next two days for the 23rd Annual TCDLA Forensics Program exploring key topics like memory, DNA, forensic autopsies, THC science, and the evolving role of AI. We’ll examine digital investigations by law enforcement—some pushing constitutional limits—and discuss how AI can help (or hinder) defense strategies in complex trials.

Agenda

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

6:00 pm *Registration*

6:45 pm *Buffet Line*

7:00 pm Innocence Dinner Presentation

9:00 pm *Adjourn*

October 15-16, 2026

23rd Annual Forensics - [Full Agenda Online](#)

Register send completed registration form

Online: www.tcdla.com

Email: register@tcdla.com

Fax: 512.469.0512

Mail: TCDLA | 6808 Hill Meadow Dr. | Austin, TX 78736

Questions?

Email register@tcdla.com

Innocence & Forensics seminar is sponsored by CDLP, a project of TCDLA, funded by the Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas

Reserve My Space & Materials

Check all that apply:

- Attending Dinner (Wed. 10/14, 7 PM) Qty: ____
 vegetarian meal
- I will need HOTEL stay for **check-in Wednesday 10/14/26 and check-out Friday 10/16/26** if staying for the Forensics Program.
**I understand it is double occupancy for students and single for staff and I will not incur any expenses. If you want to share a room with a specific person, please list their name here: _____*
- I will make my own hotel reservation at my own expense OR I do not need a room
- I will be driving my personal vehicle and/or carpooling with the names below. **In order to submit for mileage at .655 cents I understand I must have a minimum of two per vehicle. (A reimbursement form will be available onsite.)**
Names: _____
- I will need flight arrangements – **Lubbock only:**
Date of birth: _____
Name on DL: _____
Airline Carrier: _____
Departure date: _____
Departure city: _____
Departure time: _____
Departure flight #: _____
Return date: _____
Return time: _____
Return flight #: _____

Meeting | Lodging Location

Limited number of hotel and travel stipends are available for Texas based attendees. The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Austin Town Lake, located at 20 N I-35 Austin, TX 78701. The TCDLA room rate is \$119 for a single/double room. Call the hotel at (512) 472-8211 and refer to “TCDLA” to receive the group rate. **The group rate is available until September 28, 2026 or until room block is full, whichever occurs first. 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

Contact Information

Name: _____

Law School/Bar Number: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Deposit Required (CASH IS NOT ACCEPTED)

If you do not cancel 72 hours prior to the seminar and do not attend the seminar, you will pay the registration and/or hotel no show fee - \$200. You will not be registered without a credit card number.

Join TCDLA

Affiliate Membership (Professors) \$80

Student Membership \$20

Endorser: _____

Card will not be charged for deposit

Check payable to TCDLA Credit Card

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____ CVC _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

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). 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.