



Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association
6808 Hill Meadow Drive
Austin, Texas 78736

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Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association

October 15-16, 2026
Austin, Texas
Holiday Inn Town Lake

Scan to Register!



23RD ANNUAL **Forensics**

INCLUDES HOTEL & TRAVEL STIPENDS!

THREE TRACKS!

FORENSICS	MITIGATOR/ INVESTIGATOR	DRUGS
COURSE DIRECTORS Angelica Cogliano Rob Cowie Roger Smotts Rick Wardroup	COURSE DIRECTORS Michelle Moore Chris Sanders Christian Smith	COURSE DIRECTORS Don Flanary Joseph Hoelscher

www.tcdla.com

The seminar is sponsored by CDLP, a project of TCDLA, funded by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

P: 512.478.2514 • F: 512.469.9107 • www.tcdla.com • 6808 Hill Meadow Dr., Austin, TX 78736

Overview

This program will address “hard science” topics like DNA mixtures misrepresented and/or misunderstood; the scientific basis for accident scene evaluation; evaluation of choking injuries; and shooting reconstruction; “soft science” forensic topics like Errors in Memory causing false identification, evaluation of sex offenders, and the scientific basis of Competency Evaluations will be covered. Topics where training and experience are the watchwords like fingerprint analysis, will be covered. Finally, ethical considerations for using experts in forensics fields will be taught. This two-day seminar, October 15-16, will also give us opportunities to network with the experts who present and other defenders who handle technically challenging cases. Don't miss it!

Location — You Book Your Hotel & TCDLA Covers the Cost After Check-In

The seminar is being held at the Holiday Inn Town Lake Austin, 20 N IH 35, Austin, TX 78701. You must mention the “FOR” room block to get the discounted rate of \$139, S/D with a **cut-off date of 9/30/2026 or until filled, whichever occurs first.** Call (512) 472-8211 to make reservations. Attendees are responsible for booking the hotel and providing payment at check-in; TCDLA will cover the room cost after you have checked in and attended. In the event you need to cancel, attendees are responsible for canceling with the hotel. TCDLA will not pay no-show fees. Complimentary parking available for attendees.

Wednesday - October 14, 2026 • FREE (CLE: 1.00)

Innocence Dinner Presentation at 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 15 • Registration & Breakfast at 7:45 am (Daily CLE: 7.00)

	Forensics Track <i>Course Directors: Angelica Cogliano, Rob Cowie, Roger Smotts, & Rick Wardrup</i>	Mitigator/Investigator Track <i>Course Directors: Michelle Moore, Chris Sanders, & Christian Smith</i>
8:30 AM	Memory Issues in False Identification Cases ~ Trent Terrell, Ph.D.	Peer networks - Panel of Peers: The Power of Lived Experience & the benefits of a peer network ~ Wayne Lovings LCDC, Doug Smith MSSW, Lindsay Kocen RSPS, MHPS, PSS Moderator: Laura Elmore LeBlanc, LMSW-AP
9:30 AM	TBD ~ Jill Fodstad, Ph.D.	Utilizing Data in Program Development & Evaluation: Informing Practice within Forensic & Behavioral Health Settings ~ Dr. Tammy Seeker & Dr. Joel Carr
10:45 AM	Working with Consulting Experts ~ John Matthew Fabian, MD, Ph.D.	The Role & Function of Social Work/Clinical Social Work in Forensics ~ Dr. Joel Carr & Dr. Tammy Seeker
11:45 AM	Lunch Line	
12:00 PM	The Science & Pseudoscience of Forensic DNA Profiling ~ Dan Krane, Ph.D.	Lived Experience, Trauma, Re-Entry ~ Christopher Scott
1:00 PM	Issue Spotting for Probabilistic Genotyping ~ Dan Krane, Ph.D.	Investigation: Thinking Outside the Box ~ Doug Deaton
2:15 PM	Selecting & Examining Fingerprint Experts ~ Kathleen Birnbaum	Mitigation ~ Thea Posel, JD
3:15 PM	Ethical Considerations in Forensic Dominated Cases ~ Lynn Garcia	How can TCDLA help SW & Investigators - What training would be helpful
4:15 PM	Adjourn	

Friday, October 16 • Registration & Breakfast at 7:45 am (Daily CLE: 6.00)

	Forensics Track	Drug Track <i>Course Directors: Don Flanary & Joseph Hoelscher</i>
8:30 AM	The Scientific Basis for Sex Offender Assessment ~ Stephen Thorne, Ph.D.	Intro Level Questions to Ask Experts ~ Nii Amaa Ollennu
9:30 AM	Scientific Bases for Competency Evaluations ~ Megan Thone, Ph.D.	Vape Exoneree ~ Adam Tisdale
10:45 AM	Forensic Considerations in Strangulation Cases ~ Kim Bassinger	Lab Discovery/Interpreting Drug Test Results ~ Joseph Hoelscher
11:45 AM	Lunch Line	
12:00 PM	DNA Transfer Issues & Resolutions ~ Cynthia Kale	Common Issues of Drug Testing, from Prescriptions to Narcotics ~ Sol Bobst
1:00 PM	Compliant but Unsatisfactory Forensic Reporting ~ Nathan Adams	Marijuana Whiplash (pleading) ~ Blakely Mohr
2:15 PM	Shooting Reconstruction, Aiming for Justice ~ Amy Santoro	
3:15 PM	Adjourn	



October 15-16, 2026

Contact Information [Update my information](#)

Name: _____ Bar Number: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Cell #: _____ Phone #: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Registration (before 10/1/2026) Includes Hotel & Travel Stipend

Check category: Judge Attorney Investigator Mitigation Staff Law School Student (free)
\$50—including \$30 Tuition (for all classes, continental breakfast, & materials) plus \$20 to TCDLA to offset CDLP expenses

Wednesday Innocence Dinner Presentation—Complimentary (7:00 PM, Wednesday, October 14, 2026) Qty _____

Vegetarian Meal

Unable to pay tuition? E-mail mschank@tcdla.com to explain. Include the program name in the subject.

Onsite Registration (after 10/1/2026)

Check category: Judge Attorney Investigator Mitigation Staff Law School Student (free)

\$100—including \$80 tuition (for all classes, meals, & materials) plus \$20 to TCDLA to offset CDLP expenses

Join TCDLA! #TCDLASTRONG #ONEVOICE - STAND WITH TCDLA

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

New Member* & Second-Year Renewal \$100 • Endorser Name: _____

Student Membership* \$20 • Endorser Name: _____

Renew Membership \$180

Prefer not to participate in auto-renewal
*endorser required

TCDLA 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 or by checking the opt-out option above.

Payment Information Check Credit Card* **Total:** _____

Please read before registering: 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; no onsite exceptions will be made.

CANCELATION 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). Cancellations made within two weeks of the seminar will be mailed materials after the seminar & socials will be refunded less processing fee.

Credit Card #: _____ **Expiration:** _____
*4% Convenience Fee will be applied

CVC: _____ **Signature:** _____

Send completed registration form, questions, or special needs:

Call: 512.478.2514 **Mail:** 6808 Hill Meadow Dr., Austin, TX 78736 **Fax:** 512.469.0512

Online: www.TCDLA.com **Email:** register@tcdla.com

Tax Notice: \$36 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.

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, & in other communications related to the mission of TCDLA.