



Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association
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Austin, Texas 78736

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Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association

COURSE DIRECTORS

Angelica Cogliano • Rob Cowie
Roger Smotts • Rick Wardroup

22ND ANNUAL **Forensics**

October 16-17, 2025
Austin, Texas
Wyndham Garden Austin

Scan to Register!



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

Course Directors:
Angelica Cogliano • Rob Cowie • Roger Smotts • Rick Wardroup
13.00 CLE, including 0 Ethics

Overview

Memory, DNA, forensics autopsies, and the science of THC are topics that lawyers face in the majority of their more complex trials. These topics will highlight the 22nd Annual TCDLA Forensics program. We will be taught about digital investigation that is being done by law enforcement, some of which borders on the unconstitutional and other which are almost certainly so. Artificial Intelligence is everywhere we turn these days, some of can be used to assist us and our clients; other AI is of little or no assistance. We will be taught how to tell the difference and how to productively. This two-day seminar 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

The seminar is being held at the Wyndham Garden Austin, 3401 South I-35 Austin, TX 78741. You must mention the TCDLA room block to get the discounted rate of \$129, S/D with a **cutoff date of 10/1/2025 or until filled, whichever occurs first**. Call (737) 304-0630 to make reservations. 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 15, 2025

Innocence Dinner Presentation at 7:00 pm

Thursday - October 16, 2025

8:00 am	Registration	
8:45 am	Opening Remarks	Course Directors
9:00 am	Closing Arguments in the Science Dominated Trial	Drew Findling
10:00 am	Effects of Alcohol & Other Substances on Memory	Andy Schraegle, Ph.D.
11:00 am	SANE Interviews of Children	Carrie Edwards, Ph.D., RN
12:00 pm	Lunch Line	
12:15 pm	Lunch Presentation: Introduction to the Use of DNA	Dan Krane, Ph.D.
	Evidence in Criminal Cases	
1:15 pm	Familial DNA	Dan Krane, Ph.D.
2:15 pm	Break	
2:30 pm	Challenging Carceral Software	Marc Canellas, Ph.D., JD
3:30 pm	Investigating the Investigator	Roger Smotts
4:30 pm	Adjourn	

Friday - October 17, 2025

8:00 am	Registration	
8:45 am	Opening Remarks	Course Directors
9:00 am	THC Science & the Defense of Possession Cases	Daniel Mehler
10:00 am	Content-Based Analysis of Audio, Acoustic, & Video Evidence	Herbert Joe, MA, JD, LLM.
11:00 am	Break	
11:15 am	Understanding the Forensic Autopsy & Cross Examination of State's Pathologist	Evan Matshes, MD
12:15 pm	Lunch Line	
12:30 pm	Lunch Presentation: Prompt or Perish: Crafting a Smarter Defense, One Command at a Time	Patrick Barone
1:30 pm	Wounds, Welts & Witness Testimony: A Forensic Nurse's Guide to Bodily Injury Cases	Tara Godoy
2:30 pm	Break	
2:45 pm	Geo OSINT	Merilea Place
3:45 pm	Adjourn	



TCDLA 22nd Annual Forensics

October 16-17, 2025

Contact Information ☐ Update my information

Name: _____ Bar Number: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Cell #: _____ Phone #: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Registration (before 10/1/2025)

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 15, 2025)

☐ I have special needs: ☐ \$5 — vegetarian meal ☐ other _____

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

Onsite Registration (after 10/1/2025)

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: _____

☐ 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@tccla.com or by checking the opt-out option above.

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

Please read before registering: **You may not register for this program if you are a full-time law enforcement officer, prosecutor, or currently acting as a prosecutor or special prosecutor in a capital case (unfortunately, no exceptions).**

CANCELATION POLICY: To receive a refund-less 10% processing fee-cancellations must be received in writing 14 days prior to the seminar (email kpreston@tccla.com). Cancellations made within two weeks of the seminar will mailed materials after the seminar & socials will be refunded less processing fee.

Credit Card #: _____ Expiration: _____ 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@tccla.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.

Covid Notice: By registering, you are acknowledging that an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. By attending the TCDLA Events, you & any guests voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19 & agree not to hold the TCDLA, or any of their affiliates, directors, officers, employees, agents, contractors, or volunteers liable for any illness or injury.

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.