



TEXAS CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

THE WAY OF THE WARRIOR

SEMINAR INFORMATION

Date April 11, 2025
Location Tyler | Holiday Inn Tyler Conference Center 5701 S Broadway Tyler, TX 75703
Course Director Sean Hightower, David Moore, Bobby Mims, & Paul Tu
Total CLE Hours 6.00 Ethics: 1.00

Friday, April 11, 2024

Daily CLE Hours: 6.00 Ethics: 1.00

Time	CLE	Topic	Speaker
7:45 am		Registration	
8:00 am		Opening Remarks	Sean Hightower, David Moore, & Bobby Mims
8:15 am	1.00	Jury Selection Jury Selection is about not only listening to the people but also hearing the messages they send, identifying any biases, and using well-reasoned challenges for cause and effective preemptory strikes to select your jury.	Mario Olivarez
9:15 am	0.75	Pre-Trial Investigations A warrior's preparation begins early. Effectively conducting client interviews, investigation, securing and reviewing discovery, and pre-trial litigation requires constant collaboration, planning, and the use of pretrial motions. Effective pretrial investigation and strategy development will make all the difference. This is the preparation you can rely on to pin the state in and limit their reach.	Kyle Therrian
10:00 am	0.75	Opening and Closing Opening Statements is the first opportunity to tell our client's story and reinforce our theory of the case. Closing Argument is the opportunity we get to close the loop we opened in the opening and to highlight reasonable doubt in the State's case. The argument is also our chance to summarize our client's story and demand justice.	Annie Scott
10:45 am		Break	
11:00 am	0.75	Technology in the Courtroom The price to be paid by a trial lawyer often includes learning new technologies and new uses for those we're accustomed to. Effective and fluid use of technology is essential to any warrior's strategy for success. Seamless PowerPoint presentation is a minimum requirement. New developments in the digital world compel us to integrate artificial intelligence, digital exhibits, and Zoom proficiency to deliver our best for our clients.	Clifford Duke
11:45 am		Lunch Line	

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Lunch Presentation:

12:00 pm	1.00	Client/Attorney Mental Health Awareness As trial warriors, we need to be competent in identifying the signs and symptoms of mental illness. Understanding our client's past trauma is vital for their future. This is a foothold to discovering the accused's story and building a strong defense. Furthermore, as lawyers, we are regularly subjected to secondary trauma; let us learn to identify stress and prioritize our well-being.	Paul Harrell
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1:00 pm *Break*

1:15 pm	0.75	Cross-Examination Cross-examination is the skillful interrogation of your opponent's witnesses. Effective cross-examination is an art form that requires mastery of the facts, understanding of the subject matter, and familiarity with the witness's background, education, and/or motive. This session will focus on formulating questions and tactics to direct the focus of the inquiry.	Mitch Nolte
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2:00 pm	1.00 <i>Ethics</i>	Client Relationships and Communications We must listen to and connect meaningfully with our clients. But we must also set expectations and boundaries from the start. Communication, contracts, consideration of potential conflicts of interest, and ethics are all skills we must continually hone.	Andrew Decker
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3:00 pm *Adjourn*