



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

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TEXAS CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS PROJECT

THE WAY OF THE WARRIOR



2024-2025

CDLP CHAIR: PAUL TU
CDLP VICE CHAIR: PATTY TRESS

SEPTEMBER 3, 2024
WICHITA FALLS

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024
MIDLAND

SEPTEMBER 20, 2024
CORPUS CHRISTI

NOVEMBER 4, 2024
NEW BRAUNFELS

DECEMBER 6, 2024
DENTON

JANUARY 24, 2025
WACO

APRIL 11, 2025
TYLER

JULY 10-11, 2025
SOUTH PADRE ISLAND

***DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE**



The Way of the Warrior

CDLP CHAIRS

Chair: Paul Tu (Richmond)

Vice Chair: Patty Tress (Denton)

OVERVIEW

The Way of the Warrior, otherwise translated as Bushido. This code of conduct is often misunderstood as synonymous with violence and battle. However, the true essence of Bushido is rooted in the traditions and principles of service to others, self-discipline, honor, and respect.

TOPICS (UPDATED AGENDAS ONLINE)

6.00 CLE Including 1.00 Ethics

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.

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.

Opening & 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.

Technology in 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.

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.

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.

Ethics, Client Relationships and Communication —

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.

www.tcdla.com

Seminars sponsored by CDLP are funded by the Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas. Seminars are open to criminal defense attorneys. Other professionals who support the defense of criminal cases may attend at cost. Law enforcement personnel and prosecutors are not eligible to attend.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____ Bar Number: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Cell #: _____ Phone #: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

RESERVE MY SPACE/MATERIALS

Register now to save \$\$\$ for 2024–2025 CDLP seminars. On-site rate will be increased.

Information will be specific to local areas.

City:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9/3/24 (WICHITA FALLS) | <input type="checkbox"/> 9/19/24 (MIDLAND) | <input type="checkbox"/> 9/20/24 (CORPUS CHRISTI) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11/4/24 (NEW BRAUNFELS) | <input type="checkbox"/> 12/6/24 (DENTON) | <input type="checkbox"/> 1/24/25 (WACO) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4/11/25 (TYLER) | <input type="checkbox"/> 7/10/25 - 7/11/25 (SOUTH PADRE ISLAND) | |

Check all that apply:

- ☐ \$40, including \$5 tuition (for all classes, continental breakfast, and materials) plus a \$35 voluntary payment to support TCDLA.
- ☐ Texas criminal defense lawyer who regularly represents indigent defendants
- ☐ Texas Judge ☐ Paralegal ☐ Social Worker ☐ Texas Student
- ☐ Mitigation specialist ☐ Legal assistant ☐ Investigator ☐ Public Defender
- ☐ If you do not wish to make the voluntary payment, please remit only \$5 and mark this box.
- ☐ I have special needs and have listed them below.
- ☐ vegetarian lunch — \$5 ☐ other: _____

Special needs or financially unable to pay contact smartinez@tcdla.com.

JOIN TCDLA: ONE VOICE — STAND WITH TCDLA!

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

- ☐ New member & second-year renewal \$100 | Endorsor (Required by a current TCDLA Member): _____
- ☐ Prefer not to participate in auto renewal ☐ Renew membership \$180

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 contacting TCDLA by emailing mduarte@tcdla.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).

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.

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration: _____

Signature: _____ CVV: _____

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.

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

Registration Fees: Pre-registration fees for CDLP events total \$40. Of that amount, \$5 is collected as tuition for attending a grant-funded training event. Onsite registration fees total \$80, of that amount \$5 is collected as tuition for attending a grant-funded training event. It is used to supplement grant funds and is limited in use by grant restrictions. The other \$35 (onsite \$75) is an overhead fee that TCDLA has voluntarily chosen to bridge the gap between what state grant funding can provide and increasing costs. TCDLA cannot sustain its present operations solely with grant funds and the nominal fees it assesses for tuition, meals, and/or travel stipends. The additional voluntary fee, which is deposited as private funds, will be used for expenses that exceed what is allowed under state grant guidelines for participant food and lodging costs as well as staff salaries and benefits.