



# CAPITAL & NON-CAP TRIAL SKILLS FOR THE PROSECUTION

PROGRAM CHAIR: JOSHUA SOMERS, OFFICE OF THE TEXAS ATTORNEY GENERAL

*This course is approved for 15 hours of Texas (900 minutes)*

## AGENDA DAY 1

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

8:00am		<b>Registration Opens /</b> Light Breakfast and Refreshments
8:55am		<b>Welcome and Introductions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shannon Evans, CJAI Programs Director;</li><li>• Program Chair, Joshua Somers, Office of the Texas Attorney General</li></ul>
9:00am	60 min	<b>Pre-Trial Preparation (Collecting Punishment Evidence)</b> - Jon Stephenson, Jon Stephenson Law
10:00am	15 min	Break
10:15am	60 min	<b>Brady, Discovery Obligations, Prosecution Ethics</b> - Matthew Howard, Bexar County Conviction Integrity Unit
11:15am	15 min	Break
11:30am	60 min	<b>Security Threat Groups</b> - Tim Fitzpatrick, Director of Classifications and Records, TDCJ, Huntsville, TX
12:30pm		Lunch
1:30pm	60 min	<b>Con't. Security Threat Groups</b> - Tim Fitzpatrick, Director of Classifications and Records, TDCJ, Huntsville, TX
2:30pm	15 min	Break
2:45pm	60 min	<b>Voir Dire in Non-Death Cap Cases</b> - Britni Verdeja, Office of the Texas Attorney General, Austin, TX
3:45pm	60 min	<b>Top 10 Ways Not to Lose Your Case on Appeal</b> - John Rolater, Collin County DA's Office
4:45pm		Adjourn

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APPEALS



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## AGENDA DAY 2

Wednesday, July 30, 2025

8:00am		Light Breakfast and Refreshments
9:00am	60 min	<b>Voir Dire in Death Cases</b> (Lecture & Demonstration) - Alycia Harvey, Harris County DA's Office (Possible 2nd)
10:00am	15 min	Break
10:15am	60 min	<b>Practical Tools to Secure Mental Health</b> - Elena M. Doskey de Lobon, Ph.D., Dallas, TX
11:15am	15 min	Break
11:30am	60 min	<b>Closing Arguments in Capital Cases</b> - Bill Wirskey, Collin County District Attorney's Office
12:30pm		Lunch
1:30pm	60 min	<b>Significant Cases Update</b> - the Honorable Judge Jesse McClure from Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, Harris County.
2:30pm	15 min	Break
2:45pm	60 min	<b>Digital Forensics</b> - Cameron Calligan, Harris County DA's Office
3:45pm	60 min	<b>Atkins Talk</b> - Josh Reiss, Harris County DA's Office
4:45pm		Adjourn





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## AGENDA DAY 3

Thursday, July 31, 2025

8:00am		Light Breakfast and Refreshments
9:00am	60 min	<b>Child Death Cases</b> - Andrew Rountree, O'Connell West, PLLC & Dr. Tasha Zemrus, Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office
10:00am	15 min	Break
10:15am	60 min	<b>Accomplice Witness Testimony</b> - Geoff Barr, Office of the Texas Attorney General, Austin, TX
11:15am	15 min	Break
11:30am	60 min	<b>The Criticality of Investigative Data Analysis in Criminal Prosecution</b> - Nick Hill, Texas Department of Public Safety
12:30pm		Adjourn

