



# VOIR DIRE FOR THE PROSECUTION

PROGRAM CHAIR: LISA CALLAGHAN OF TARRANT COUNTY'S DISTRICT ATTORNEY OFFICE

*This course is approved for 12 hours of MCLE (720 minutes)*

## AGENDA DAY 1: FOUNDATIONS OF VOIR DIRE FOR THE PROSECUTION

LOCATION: **TARRANT COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

Tuesday, June 17, 2025

8:00am		<b>Registration Open: Breakfast and Coffee Hour</b>
8:55am		<b>Welcome and Introductions</b> - Shannon Evans, CJAI Programs Director and Program Chair, Lisa Callaghan, Tarrant County District Attorney's Office
9:00am	60 min	<b>The Role of Voir Dire in Prosecution</b> - DJ Estes, Tarrant County ADA and Tim Moore from Daniel, Moore, Evans, Biggs, Decker, and Smid, Ft. Worth, TX <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overview of Voir Dire and its Importance in Jury Selection</li><li>• Key Differences in Prosecution and Defense Approaches</li></ul>
10:00am	15 min	Break
10:15am	60 min	<b>Crafting Effective Questions for the Voir Dire</b> - James Zaleta, Lisa Callaghan, and Steve Conder: Tarrant County District Attorney's Office and CIU <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Voir Dire Questions</li><li>• Juror Biases and Attitudes</li><li>• Strategies for Uncovering Hidden Biases</li></ul>
11:15am	60 min	<b>Psychology of Jury Selection</b> - Matthew L. Ferrara, Trial Consultant & Forensic Psychology, Austin, TX <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understanding Juror Psychology</li><li>• Identifying Favorable and Unfavorable Jurors for the Prosecution</li><li>• Techniques for Building Rapport</li></ul>
12:15pm		Lunch (Provided)
1:15pm	60 min	<b>Practical Voir Dire Simulation (Part 1)</b> - Breakout Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participants Role-Play Voir Dire</li><li>• Give and Receive Feedback from Faculty and Peers</li></ul>
2:15pm	15 min	Break
2:30pm	60 min	<b>Practical Voir Dire Simulation (Part 2)</b> - Breakout Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participants Role-Play Voir Dire</li><li>• Give and Receive Feedback from Faculty and Peers</li></ul>
3:30pm	30 min	<b>Day 1 De-Brief</b> - Lisa Callaghan
4:00pm		<b>Networking Reception</b> - Light Refreshments





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### AGENDA DAY 2: ADVANCED TECHNIQUES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

LOCATION: **TIM CURRY JUSTICE CENTER**

Wednesday, June 18, 2025

8:00am		<b>Breakfast and Coffee Hour</b>
8:30am	90 min	<b>Advanced Voir Dire Strategies Panel - Lloyd Whelchel, Emily Dixon, and Charlie Boulware: Tarrant County District Attorney's Office</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Handling Difficult Jurors and Challenging Responses</li><li>• Using Voir Dire to Shape the Narrative</li><li>• Identifying Bias Issues in Selection</li></ul>
10:00am	15 min	Break
10:15am	60 min	<b>Specialty Voir Dires: Tips for Jury Selection in Specific Cases - Lisa Callaghan, Bill Vassar, Jim Hudson, and Neal Maranto</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Homicide, Child SA, Drugs, DWI, and Special Consideration for High Profile, Politically Sensitive, and Emotionally Charged Cases</li></ul>
11:15am	75 min	<b>Mock Voir Dire with Feedback (Part 1)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Voir Dire in Simulated Courtroom Setting</li><li>• Emphasis on Refining Techniques and Addressing Weaknesses</li><li>• Feedback from Faculty and Peers</li></ul>
12:30pm		Lunch (Provided)
1:15pm	75 min	<b>Mock Voir Dire with Feedback (Part 2)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Voir Dire in Simulated Courtroom Setting</li><li>• Emphasis on Refining Techniques and Addressing Weaknesses</li><li>• Feedback from Faculty and Peers</li></ul>
2:30pm	15 min	Break
2:45pm	60 min	<b>Closing Panel Discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lessons Learned</li><li>• Future Trends in Jury Selection</li><li>• Practical Tips and Advice</li><li>• Audience Q &amp; A</li></ul>
3:45pm	30 min	<b>Day 2 De-Brief - Lisa Callaghan</b>

