

2011

MASTERING THE ART OF COLLECTING DEBTS AND JUDGMENTS



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September 1–2, 2011 AT&T Conference Center • Austin, Texas

Earn up to 13.00 Hours of Credit including 2.00 Hours of Ethics Credit

Specialization Credit Approved for Bankruptcy Law, Civil Trial Law, and Consumer and Commercial Law

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THURSDAY MORNING, SEPT. 1, 2011

Presiding Officer:

Donna Brown, Donna Brown, P.C., Austin, TX

8:00 a.m. Registration Opens Includes continental breakfast.

8:50 a.m. Welcoming Remarks

9:00 a.m. .75 hr

Pre-Suit Investigations

An examination of the pre-litigation steps the attorney should take to increase the likelihood of collection, including gathering the file, multiplying defendants, jurisdiction and venue, assessing damages and evaluating defenses.

Stuart R. Schwartz, ScottHulse, P.C., El Paso, TX

9:45 a.m. .75 hr including .25 hr ethics

Evaluating the Collectability of Your Claim

This session uses case studies to discuss research, identification and analysis of the debtor's assets.

Matias E. Garcia, Barnett & Garcia PLLC, Austin, TX

10:30 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. .75 hr ethics

The Ethics of Pretexting

This presentation examines the ethical rules and legal standards governing lawyers who participate directly or indirectly in conduct constituting dissemblance or pretexting.

John S. Dzienkowski, The University of Texas School of Law, Austin, TX

11:30 a.m. .67 hr

Creditor Causes of Action: Pleadings and Proof

Sworn accounts, suits on notes, accounts stated and other not-so-usual suspects, plus pre-trial discovery to provide the proof, are discussed.

Mark P. Blenden, The Blenden Law Firm, Dallas, TX

12:10 p.m. Break to Pick Up Lunch Included in conference registration fee.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Presiding Officer:

Bruce A. Atkins, Attorney at Law, Houston, TX

LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

12:30 p.m. .75 hr including .25 hr ethics

Judges Panel: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

What creditors' lawyers do right and wrong in court.

Moderator:

R. David Fritsche, Law Offices of R. David Fritsche, San Antonio, TX

Panelists:

Hon. Cactus Jack Cagle, Harris County Civil Court-at-Law No. 1, Houston, TX Hon. Sally L. Montgomery, Dallas County Court-at-Law No. 3, Dallas, TX Hon. Irene Rios, Bexar County Court-at-Law No. 10, San Antonio, TX

1:15 p.m. Break

1:30 p.m. .50 hr

The Nuts and Bolts of Equipment Leases

Coverage of common collection issues under leases in and out of bankruptcy, and provisions to aid in the enforcement of leases.

Stephanie E. Kaiser, Kelly Hart & Hallman LLP, Fort Worth, TX

2:00 p.m. .50 hr

Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and the Texas Debt Collection Practices Act

Practical application and tips for compliance with the Acts.

Michael J. Scott, Law Office of Michael Scott, Carrollton, TX

2:30 p.m. .50 hr

Fair Credit Reporting Act and Credit Reports: Common Collections Questions

This session focuses on what collection attorneys need to know about the Fair Credit Reporting Act (as amended by the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act). Topics addressed include requirements and permissions to run credit reports, steps for reporting bad credit, and other various rights and responsibilities under the law that can be triggered by collection activities.

Erin F. Fonté, Cox Smith, Austin, TX

3:00 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m.

.50 hr

Formation of the Judgment and Calculation of Interest

Considerations when drafting a judgment, including parties, issues, remedies, pre- and post-judgment interest and other necessary bells and whistles.

Heather Bailey New, Haynes and Boone, LLP, Dallas, TX

3:45 p.m.

.75 hr

Practice Tips and Strategies for Defending Default Judgments

How to avoid the most common mistakes that doom default judgments, and how to address the most common attacks on default judgments: motions for new trial, restricted appeals and bills of review.

Patrick J. Dyer, Law Office of Patrick J. Dyer, Missouri City, TX

4:30 p.m.

.83 hr

.50 hr

Evidentiary Issues for the Creditor's Lawyer

A discussion of common evidentiary issues, how to make objections and how to meet objections.

Panelists:

Bruce A. Atkins, Attorney at Law, Houston, TX Sean Michael Reagan, Leyh & Payne, L.L.P., Houston, TX

Hon. Eric Montgomery Shepperd, Travis County Court-at-Law No. 2, Austin, TX

5:20 p.m.

Adjourn

FRIDAY MORNING, SEPT. 2, 2011

Presiding Officer:

Matias E. Garcia, Barnett & Garcia PLLC, Austin, TX

8:00 a.m. Conference Room Opens Includes continental breakfast.

8:30 a.m.

Challenges of Proving Assigned and Purchased Debts

Discussion of sufficiency of evidence, dealing with common objections and affirmative defenses.

Stephen Niermann, Niermann & Olivo, Carrollton, TX

9:00 a.m. 1.25 hrs

Judgment Collection Strategies

Effective use of post-judgment discovery, remedies and turnover receiverships to turn judgments into cash.

Moderator:

Daniel J. Goldberg, Ross, Banks, May, Cron and Cavin, P.C., Houston, TX

Panelists:

Michael S. Bernstein, Michael S. Bernstein, P.C., Garland, TX

Donna Brown, Donna Brown, P.C., Austin, TX Kathleen A. Hurren, Attorney at Law, San Antonio, TX

10:15 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. 1.25 hrs

When It's Not Really Over: Bankruptcy Opportunities for Collection Attorneys

Are you a half-full or half-empty type of person? The latter can skip this presentation if they dare.

Michael V. Baumer, Attorney at Law, Austin, TX James V. Hoeffner, Graves Dougherty Hearon & Moody, Austin, TX

Stephen W. Lemmon, Brown McCarroll, L.L.P., Austin, TX

11:45 a.m. Break to Pick Up Lunch Included in conference registration fee.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Presiding Officer:

Donna Brown, Donna Brown, P.C., Austin, TX

LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

12:10 p.m. .50 hr

Legislative Update

Karen S. Neeley, of Counsel, Cox Smith, Austin, TX

12:40 p.m. Break

12:55 p.m.

The Ethics of Negotiation: Are There Any?

.75 hr ethics

What are the boundaries, borders and gray areas for lawyers involved in negotiations? A fast-paced presentation with points to ponder, hypotheticals to consider and something to smile about.

Jason Boulette, Boulette & Golden L.L.P., Austin, TX

1:40 p.m. .5

Dead Debtors: Creditor's Claims in Probate

How to collect a debt against a decedent's estate in probate and options to collect when there isn't a probate.

Alan S. Leibel, Palmer & Manuel, L.L.P., Dallas, TX

2:10 p.m. .58 hr

Judgments: Domesticating, Renewing and Reviving

A discussion of how to domesticate, renew and revive judgments.

Hon. Michael C. Engelhart, 151st Civil District Court, Houston, TX

2:45 p.m. .50 hr

A Practical Guide to Collecting Debts in Mexico

This session examines the nuts and bolts of enforcing a U.S. judgment in Mexico, including the requirements under Mexican law for a judgment to be enforceable, practical considerations and key pitfalls to be avoided.

David Lopez, Pulman, Cappuccio, Pullen & Benson, LLP, San Antonio, TX

3:15 p.m. Adjourn

Overall excellent.

Knowledgeable speakers, good written materials and nice varied topics.

Good topics which were very relevant to my practice area.
The speakers were good as well as friendly and approachable

between sessions.

A very good program, good speakers and timely topics.

I liked the diversity of topics and speakers.

The program was well presented with excellent topics.

I was really impressed with the quality of speakers and materials.

REASONS TO ATTEND MASTERING THE ART OF COLLECTING DEBTS AND JUDGMENTS

Don't miss this program if you are interested in learning how to:

- evaluate cases for collectability
- apply expert analysis to asset search results through case studies
- increase your knowledge of master pleadings and proof for basic and not-so-basic creditor claims
- draft, renew, revive and domesticate judgments
- understand the judge's perspective in the courtroom
- ensure that negotiation and communication techniques utilized in your practice comply with ethical rules
- represent your client's interests when bankruptcy becomes an issue
- understand how the Fair Credit Reporting Act affects collection activities
- defend your default judgments
- utilize post-judgment collection remedies and discovery to turn judgments into cash
- keep abreast of federal laws affecting a debt collection practice and actions against individuals

www.utcle.org/conferences/CD11



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Or register online: www.utcle.org

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This program is not printed or mailed at state expense.

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AUSTIN

September 1-2, 2011

CONFERENCE LOCATION



AT&T Conference Center

The University of Texas 1900 University Avenue Austin, TX 78705 512-404-3600

Special Room Rate: \$159

good through July 31, 2011 (subject to availability)

Parking: Free daily Self-Parking at UT Garages. Separate fees apply for Valet and Overnight parking.

KEY DATES

August 24, 2011, 5 p.m.

last day for early registration add \$50 for registrations received after this time

August 26, 2011, 5 p.m. last day for full refund

August 29, 2011, 5 p.m.

last day for partial refund \$50 processing fee applied

September 1, 2011, 9 a.m. conference begins

This course has been approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of Texas Committee on MCLE in the amount of 13.00 hours, of which 2.00 credit hours will apply to legal ethics/professional responsibility credit. The University of Texas School of Law is a State Bar of California approved MCLE provider (#1944), and an Oklahoma Bar Association MCLE presumptively-approved provider (#169).

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