

9th Annual Family Law On The Front Lines

June 18-19, 2009 • Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort and Spa • San Antonio, TX

Thursday Morning, June 18, 2009

Presiding Officer:

Sherri A. Evans, Jenkins & Kamin LLP - Houston, TX

8:00 am	Registration Opens Includes continental breakfast.
9:00 am 1.00 hr	Substance Abuse Cases Panel discussion of what every attorney should know about drug and alcohol testing. Understanding when to test and what test to use based on the facts of your case. What can the test reveal and how do you use them in your specific case? What do people do to mask or alter the test results and is it effective? Discussion of the cutting edge types of testing such as the 80 hour test, ETG (liver test), fingernail scrapings and the SCRAM bracelet. Vickers L. Cunningham, Recovery Healthcare Corp - Dallas, TX Beth M. Maultsby, Goranson, Bain, Larsen, Greenwald, Maultsby & Murphy, PLLC - Dallas, TX Jim Turnage, Forensic DNA & Drug Testing Services, Inc. - Dallas, TX
10:00 am 0.50 hr	Economic Contribution and Reimbursement: Where We Are and Where We're Going An update regarding the Texas legislative session and the subjects of economic contribution and reimbursement. Jonathan J. Bates, Kinser & Bates, L.L.P. - Dallas, TX
10:30 am	Break
10:45 am 0.75 hr 0.25 hr ethics	Mandamus and More: Are Pre-Trial Appellate Rulings a New Free-For-All or Just the Same-Old-Same-Old? A review of the new standards set out by the Texas Supreme Court for seeking mandamus during the pendency of a case, including an analysis of whether the standards have really been lessened, affording increased availability of the remedy. This presentation also evaluates the availability of other appellate remedies prior to final judgment and their limited applicability to family law cases. The discussion ends with a look at preservation of error, waiver issues, and appellate deadlines from an ethical standpoint. Richard L. Flowers Jr., McEvily & Flowers - Houston, TX Michelle May O'Neil, O'Neil Anderson - Dallas, TX
11:30 am 0.50 hr	All in the Family A primer on business entities, what they are, when to use them and how to defend against them. Amber Liddell Alwais, McCurley, Orsinger, McCurley, Nelson & Downing, LLP - San Antonio, TX

Thursday Afternoon, June 18, 2009

Presiding Officer:

Stephen J. Naylor, Law Office Of Stephen J. Naylor, PLLC - Fort Worth, TX

	LUNCHEON PRESENTATION
12:00 pm	Pick up Box Lunch Included in conference registration fee.
12:15 pm 0.75 hr	When You Play, You May Pay! Paternity Fraud—The Newest Form of Birth Control The great debate over when paternity can be disestablished and which grounds are necessary or socially appropriate. Further, when sanctions or consequences are involved. Moderator: Stephen J. Naylor, Law Office Of Stephen J. Naylor, PLLC - Fort Worth, TX Materials By: Natalie Lauren Webb, The Webb Family Law Firm, P.C. - Dallas, TX Panelists: Brian L. Webb, The Webb Family Law Firm, P.C. - Dallas, TX Panelists: Ellen A. Yarrell, Attorney at Law - Houston, TX
1:00 pm	Break
1:15 pm 0.50 hr	Surfin' Safari: Websites to Improve Your Practice A survey of websites that can assist the family law practitioner. Christopher K. Wrampelmeier, Underwood, Wilson, Berry, Stein, & Johnson, P.C. - Amarillo, TX
1:45 pm 0.50 hr ethics	What Would Atticus Do?—Ten Biggest Ethical Mistakes Family Lawyers Make How to avoid a grievance; how to implement protocol to avoid ethics problems; most common grievances/complaints; how to respond to grievances. JoAl Cannon Sheridan, Ausley, Algert, Robertson & Flores, LLP - Austin, TX
2:15 pm 0.75 hr 0.25 hr ethics	The Electronic Evidence "Bible" Back to basics, everything you need to know regarding federal and state wiretap statutes, invasion of privacy, spoliation of evidence, access to data, surveillance, discovery and admissibility of electronic evidence. Heather Leah King, Koons Fuller Vanden Eykel & Robertson - Southlake, TX Kathryn J. Murphy, Goranson, Bain, Larsen, Greenwald, Maultsby & Murphy, PLLC - Plano, TX
3:00 pm	Break

3:15 pm 0.50 hr	Shortening the Dance—the Effective Use of Summary Judgments in Family Law Cases Recognizing opportunities to utilize the summary judgment process to eliminate claims, narrow issues and promote settlement. Karl E. Hays, Law Offices Of Karl E. Hays - Austin, TX
3:45 pm 0.50 hr	Enforcement of Child Related Issues Do we pass or do we go directly to jail? John F. (Bo) Nichols Jr, Jenkins & Kamin LLP - Houston, TX
4:15 pm 1.00 hr	What the Legislature Hath Wrought This session addresses bills affecting family law which have passed both houses of the legislature in the 2009 Legislative Session, and some limited discussion of bills which did not pass. Jack W. Marr, Marr Meier & Bradicich LLP - Victoria, TX
5:15 pm	Adjourn to Reception

Friday Morning, June 19, 2009

Presiding Officer:

Karl E. Hays, Law Offices Of Karl E. Hays - Austin, TX

8:00 am	Conference Room Opens Includes continental breakfast.
8:30 am 0.50 hr 0.25 hr ethics	Surviving Scalawag Clients with Your Ethics Unsullied Begin protecting yourself from the first client meeting; practical pointers and ethical traps. Martin H. Boozer, Attorney at Law - Austin, TX
9:00 am 0.50 hr	Cohabitation Contracts For homosexual and heterosexual couples. James Norbert Mueller, Goranson, Bain, Larsen, Greenwald, Mault - Dallas, TX
9:30 am 0.50 hr	Property Puzzles: Tracing and Characterization—25 Rules and More A detailed examination of marital property law, including rules, unanswered questions, tracing methodologies, and practical examples. R. Scott Downing, McCurley, Orsinger, McCurley, Nelson & Downing, LLP - Dallas, TX

10:00 am 0.50 hr	<p>Unique Compensation—What Is It and Who Owns It?</p> <p>Retention bonuses, endorsement fees, signing bonuses, contingency fees and payments, performance bonuses, and other compensation packages.</p> <p>Katherine Anne Kinser, Kinser & Bates, L.L.P. - Dallas, TX</p>
10:30 am	Break
10:45 am 0.75 hr	<p>AG Office: Things You Should Know</p> <p>What amendments are taking place in the family code, administrated remedies, and how not to get trapped in orders you don't see coming.</p> <p>Cynthia J. Barela, Law Offices of Cynthia J. Barela - Amarillo, TX Laura D. Hamilton, Office of the Attorney General - Amarillo, TX</p>
11:30 am 0.50 hr	<p>Effective Cross-Examination of Mental Health Experts: Re-Shrinking the Experts</p> <p>This session addresses a wide variety of practical issues relating to an effective cross-examination of mental health experts. An outline for cross-examination is provided, which allows the Court to hear the methodology, database, the experts specialized knowledge (or lack thereof), and ethical guidelines that the expert employs. In addition, key issues are addressed that the attorney should become familiar with prior to cross-examining the expert so that counsel can be prepared to ask appropriate follow up questions to answers propounded by the mental health expert.</p> <p>Mark J. Blotcky M.D., Mark J. Blotcky, M.D. - Dallas, TX Keith M. Nelson, McCurley, Orsinger, McCurley, Nelson & Downing, LLP - Dallas, TX</p>

Friday Afternoon, June 19, 2009

Presiding Officer:

Miriam Ackels Claerhout, Ackels & Ackels LLP - Dallas, TX

12:00 pm	<p>Pick up Box Lunch</p> <p>Included in conference registration fee.</p>
	LUNCHEON PRESENTATION
12:15 pm 0.75 hr	<p>Models of Effective Presentations</p> <p>Visual persuasion: the effective use of trial aids, demonstrative evidence, and summaries at temporary hearings and trial.</p> <p>Thomas Albert Greenwald, Goranson, Bain, Larsen, Greenwald, Et Al - Plano, TX Hon. John Christopher Oldner, 416th District Court - McKinney, TX</p>
1:00 pm	Break

1:15 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Disproportionate Division</p> <p>Practical pointers if you're seeking a disproportionate division, as well as what strategies you need and how to maximize your client's take.</p> <p>Warren Cole, The Law Office Of Warren Cole - Houston, TX</p>
1:45 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Division of Debt</p> <p>Negative estates, how to deal with debts, and the rights of third party creditors.</p> <p>William W. Morris, Looper, Reed, & McGraw - Houston, TX</p>
2:15 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Jury Selection in the Age of Twitter</p> <p>Changing demographics, technology, and attitudes toward divorce in the new Millennium along with a decrease in the frequency of jury trials make jury selection in family law cases particularly challenging. This presentation discusses both the process of voir dire and the practice of jury selection with an emphasis on practical tools when time is short.</p> <p>Kevin Karlson, Kevin Karlson, JD., Ph.D. - Frisco, TX</p>
2:45 pm 1.00 hr	<p>Judges Panel</p> <p>Moderator: Warren Cole, The Law Office Of Warren Cole - Houston, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Marilea Whatley Lewis, 330th District Court - Dallas, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Hon. Lora Jeanette Livingston, 261st District Court - Austin, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Hon. Larry Noll, 408th District Court - San Antonio, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Hon. John Christopher Oldner, 416th District Court - McKinney, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Hon. Judy L. Warne, 257th Judicial District Court - Houston, TX</p>
3:45 pm	<p>Adjourn</p>