

2004 School Law Conference
February 26-27, 2004 • Four Seasons Hotel • Austin, TX

Thursday Morning, Feb. 26, 2004

Presiding Officer:

Denise Hays, Walsh Anderson Brown Schulze & Aldridge - Austin, TX

9:30 am 0.50 hr	Commissioner Update Summary of decisions from Commissioner of Education and SBEC issued in the last 12 months. Ellen H. Spalding, Feldman & Rogers, L.L.P. - Houston, TX
10:00 am 0.75 hr	Legal Rights of Gay Students and Employees After the Supreme Court's Lawrence decision, litigation over gay rights continues to increase. In what areas are gay rights issues being raised in the public school context and how are the courts addressing those issues? Eric W. Schulze, Walsh Anderson Et Al - Austin, TX
11:00 am 0.75 hr	Record Privacy, Parental Rights and Military Recruiters Director of the Family Policy Compliance Office will discuss and respond to questions concerning FERPA, PPRA and the military recruiter provisions of NCLB. Focus will be on the most recent changes and guidance on these laws. LeRoy Rooker, Family Policy Compliance Office, DOE - Washington, DC
11:45 am 0.50 hr	Speeches, Messages and Prayers at Graduation This session will synthesize First Amendment case law and guidance from the Department of Education on religion in schools to offer practical suggestions for the coming graduation season. Joy Surratt Baskin, Texas Association of School Boards - Austin, TX

Thursday Afternoon, Feb. 26, 2004

Presiding Officer:

Denise Hays, Walsh Anderson Brown Schulze & Aldridge - Austin, TX

1:30 pm 0.75 hr	Criminal Statutes That Affect Employees, Trustees and Officials in School Settings If you receive a grand jury target letter in the mail, it's too late. Avoid the long arm of the law by attending this session on criminal statutes related to open government, gifts to public servants, use of public property, and abuse of governmental authority. Scott A. Durfee, Harris Co Da's Ofc - Houston, TX
--------------------	---

2:15 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Navigating OCR Investigations: Do You Have Your Oars Ready?</p> <p>This topic will provide practical tips for school administrators, attorneys, and board members in preparing for an investigation by the Office for Civil Rights.</p> <p>M. Kaye DeWalt, Adams And Reese LLC - Houston, TX</p>
2:45 pm 0.75 hr	<p>Fair Labor Standards Act: Old, New, and In-Between</p> <p>Class actions against school districts are increasing. "Exempt" classifications are about to change. Learn what's new and what to avoid in administering this critical federal law.</p> <p>Cheryl T. Mehl, Schwartz & Eichelbaum, P.C. - Austin, TX</p>
3:45 pm 0.50 hr ethics	<p>Ethics Rules for Dealing with Unrepresented Persons</p> <p>This session discusses the various types of applied leave of absences examining the pitfalls and quagmires as they relate to employees and administrators.</p> <p>Miles J. LeBlanc, Houston Community College System - Houston, TX</p>
4:15 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Gift of Public Funds</p> <p>New cases and emerging trends in the use of public funds - what has changed and where are we going?</p> <p>Paul Taylor, TASB - Austin, TX</p>
4:45 pm 0.32 hr	<p>Late Breaking News Practitioners Need to Know About</p> <p>This session will cover important, recently issued, late-breaking court cases and/or administrative decisions not covered by other presentations at the conference.</p> <p>Nan P. Hundere, Walsh Anderson Brown Schulze & Aldridge - San Antonio, TX</p>

Friday Morning, Feb. 27, 2004

Presiding Officer:

Lisa A. Brown, Bracewell & Giuliani LLP - Houston, TX

8:30 am 1.50 hrs ethics	<p>The 11 Commandments of Professional Responsibility</p> <p>A session of informative and entertaining parables covering ethics and professional responsibility.</p> <p>Michael Sean Quinn, Quinn Hayes & Quinn - Austin, TX</p>
10:00 am 0.50 hr	<p>Do's and Don'ts of Conducting Elections</p> <p>Issue spotting and preventive advice on use of district resources and employee/trustee involvement in campaigns.</p> <p>Arturo G. Michel, City Of Houston, Texas - Houston, TX</p>

10:45 am 0.75 hr	<p>Breaking up Is Hard to Do: Ending Employment Relationships</p> <p>An in-depth discussion of the pitfalls to be aware of and the legal strategies to consider in connection with the separation of contractual and at-will personnel.</p> <p>David M. Feldman, Feldman & Rogers LLP - Houston, TX</p>
11:30 am 0.50 hr	<p>No Child Left Behind - Texas Implementation Update</p> <p>A review of Texas' implementation of NCLB and outstanding issues remaining for the 2004-05 school year.</p> <p>David A. Anderson, Texas Education Agency - Austin, TX</p>

Friday Afternoon, Feb. 27, 2004

Presiding Officer:

Lisa A. Brown, Bracewell & Giuliani LLP - Houston, TX

1:15 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Distribution of Student or Community - Literature on School Campuses</p> <p>Status of school district's ability to enforce prior review distribution policies in light of recent Fifth Circuit opinion.</p> <p>Charles J. Crawford, Abernathy Roeder Boyd & Joplin - McKinney, TX Christopher B. Gilbert, Bracewell & Giuliani, LLP - Houston, TX</p>
1:45 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Leaves of Absence</p> <p>Discussion of ethical issues confronting lawyers dealing with unrepresented persons, especially pro se Plaintiffs.</p> <p>Efren M. Guedea, Texas Department Of Family And Protectiv - Austin, TX</p>
2:30 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Student Discipline</p> <p>This discussion provides an update of recent Texas caselaw regarding student discipline and addresses legislative changes to Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code.</p> <p>Lisa Tatum, West & Gooden, P.C. - San Antonio, TX</p>
3:00 pm 0.75 hr	<p>Whistle-Blower/Retaliation Claims: or, "Do You Want Some Cheese with That Whine?"</p> <p>A discussion of state/federal statutes that prohibit retaliation against employees who report wrongdoing or participate in certain proceedings.</p> <p>Roger D. Hepworth, Henslee Fowler Hepworth & Schwartz - Austin, TX Mark W. Robinett, Brim, Arnett, Robinett, Hanner & Conners - Austin, TX</p>