

Jury Charges



Angie Creasy, Travis County District Attorney's Office
Sarah Beth Landau, Harris County Public Defender's Office

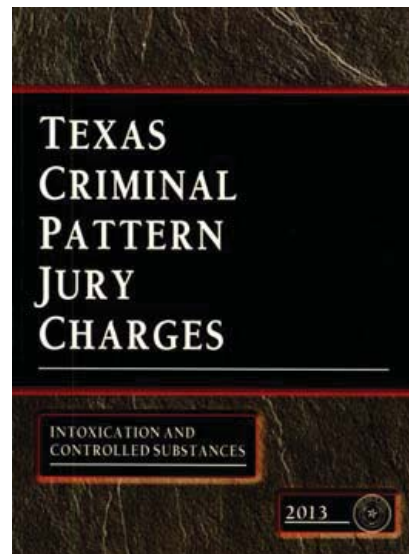
Robert O. Dawson Conference on Criminal Appeals
May 3, 2018

What we'll cover:

1. New pattern jury charges
2. Sua sponte instructions
3. Common issues on appeal

New pattern jury charges

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Sua sponte instructions

Sua sponte instructions

Subject to the provisions of Article 36.07 in each felony case and in each misdemeanor case tried in a court of record, the judge shall, before the argument begins, deliver to the jury, except in pleas of guilty, where a jury has been waived, a written charge distinctly setting forth the law applicable to the case; not expressing any opinion as to the weight of the evidence, not summing up the testimony, discussing the facts or using any argument in his charge calculated to arouse the sympathy or excite the passions of the jury.

Tex. Code Crim. Proc. art. 36.14

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First appeared as part of the conference materials for the
2018 Robert O. Dawson Conference on Criminal Appeals session
"Jury Charges"