

South Texas  
COLLEGE OF LAW

**CLE**

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION



22nd Annual  
**PERSONAL  
INJURY LAW  
CONFERENCE**

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

**April 10-11, 2008**  
South Texas College of Law  
1303 San Jacinto - Garrett-Townes Hall  
Houston, Texas

South Texas College of Law is an accredited sponsor approved by the State Bar of Texas Committee on MCLE

Accredited by the State Bar of Texas for  
**11.75 MCLE Hours, 2.0 Ethics Hours**

See registration information inside

S O U T H T E X A S C O L L E G E O F L A W

# PERSONAL INJURY LAW CONFERENCE

**THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2008**

**8:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast**  
sponsored by Encore Bank, N.A. dba Encore Trust

8:50

**Welcome and Opening Remarks**

- ◆ James J. Alfini, *Dean and President, South Texas College of Law*
- ◆ Professor Lisa L. Dahm, *Director of CLE, South Texas College of Law*

**Morning Moderator:**

**David W. Holman, *The Holman Law Firm, P.C.***

9:00 ..... (.75 hour)

**Demonstrative Evidence: Admissibility of Animation**

- ◆ Benny Agosto, Jr., *Abraham, Watkins, Nichols, Sorrels & Friend Houston*

9:45 ..... (1.0 hour)

**Voir Dire**

- ◆ Robert B. Hirschhorn, *Cathy E. Bennett & Associates, Inc. Lewisville*

**10:45 Morning Break**

11:00 ..... (1.0 hour)

**Evidence**

- ◆ George "Tex" Quesada, *Sommerman & Quesada, L.L.P. Dallas*

**12:00 Lunch Break**

(pick up lunch and return to the auditorium)

12:15 ..... (1.0 hour)

**Lunch Presentation**

**The Gatekeeper: Expert Witnesses**

- ◆ Hon. Sharon S. McCally, *Harris County District Court No. 334 Houston*
- ◆ Sean E. Breen, *Herman, Howry & Breen, L.L.P. Austin*
- ◆ Robert Lee "Rob" Galloway, *South Texas College of Law Houston*
- ◆ Mary-Olga Lovett, *Greenberg Traurig Houston*

**1:15 After Lunch Break**

**Afternoon Moderator:**

**Andrew B. Sommerman, *Sommerman & Quesada, L.L.P.***

1:30 ..... (.75 hour, including .25 hour of ethics)

**Damages**

- ◆ Andrew B. Sommerman, *Sommerman & Quesada, L.L.P. Dallas*

2:15 ..... (1.0 hour, including 1.0 hour of legal ethics)

**Legal Malpractice**

- ◆ Dale Jefferson, *Martin, Disiere, Jefferson & Wisdom L.L.P. Houston*

**3:15 Afternoon Break**

3:30 ..... (.75 hour, includes .25 hour of legal ethics)

**Coverage and Stowers in the 21st Century**

- ◆ Diana Pérez, *Martin, Disiere, Jefferson & Wisdom L.L.P. Houston*

4:15 ..... (1.0 hour)

**Products Liability**

- ◆ Arthur J. Gonzalez, *Brent Coon & Associates Houston*
- ◆ Michael J. Lowenberg, *The O'Quinn Law Firm Houston*

**5:15 Adjourn**

Total MCLE hours for Thursday = 7.25,  
including 1.5 hours of legal ethics

**FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2008**

**8:30 Continental Breakfast**  
sponsored by Encore Bank, N.A. dba Encore Trust

8:55

**Welcome Remarks**

- ◆ Professor Lisa L. Dahm, *Director of CLE, South Texas College of Law*

**Morning Moderator:**

**Jess W. Mason, *Mason Coplen & Banks, P.C.***

9:00 ..... (.75 hour, includes .25 hour of legal ethics)

**Pre-Suit Settlements**

- ◆ Donald H. Kidd, *Perdue & Kidd, L.L.P. Houston*

9:45 ..... (1.0 hour, includes .25 hour of legal ethics)

**Discovery**

- ◆ Paul N. Gold, *Aversano & Gold Houston*

**10:45 Morning Break**

11:00 ..... (1.0 hour)

**Trying the Auto Case**

**Plaintiff's Perspective:**

- ◆ Jess W. Mason, *Mason Coplen & Banks, P.C. Houston*

**Defense Perspective:**

- ◆ John A. Ramirez, *Bush and Ramirez, L.L.C. Houston*

**12:00 Lunch Break**

(pick up lunch and return to the auditorium)

12:15 ..... (1.0 hour)

**Lunch Presentation**

**View From the Bench on Personal Injury in General**

- ◆ Hon. Joseph "Tad" Halbach, Jr., *Harris County District Court No. 333 Houston*

1:15 ..... (.75 hour)

**Closing Argument**

- ◆ Frank L. Branson, III, *Law Office of Frank L. Branson Dallas*

**2:00 Adjourn**

Total MCLE hours for Friday = 4.5,  
including .50 hour of legal ethics

*continued*

## PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Andrew B. Sommerman, Chair**  
Sommerman & Quesada, L.L.P.

**Benny Agosto, Jr.**  
Abraham, Watkins, Nichols,  
Sorrels & Friend

**Dale Jefferson**  
Martin, Disiere, Jefferson & Wisdom L.L.P.

**Jess W. Mason**  
Mason Coplen & Banks, P.C.

**Prof. Lisa L. Dahm, J.D., LL.M**  
Director of CLE

**Jean Zoch**  
Program Administrator

## 2008 CLE COURSES

HARRIS COUNTY EMINENT DOMAIN  
CONFERENCE  
*May 1, 2008*

REAL ESTATE LAW  
CONFERENCE  
*June 5-6, 2008*

CRIMINAL LAW CONFERENCE  
*June, 2008*

EMPLOYMENT LAW COURSE  
*July 10-11, 2008*

**Just Ethics**  
*Every second Friday of the month  
at noon*

## Registration Information

**Location:** South Texas College of Law, Garrett-Townes Hall (in the atrium), 1303 San Jacinto, Houston, Texas 77002. For directions, call Kimberly Smith at (713) 646-1757 or (800) 646-1253. For map, visit [www.stcl.edu/01welcome/map\\_houston.htm](http://www.stcl.edu/01welcome/map_houston.htm).

**To Register:** See Registration Form below. For those who register early, course books, meals and seating will be reserved until the start of the first presentation. Allow one week to process registration. Confirm your registration at [www.stcl.edu/cle/registrationconfirmation.html](http://www.stcl.edu/cle/registrationconfirmation.html). **No written confirmation will be sent.**

**State Bar of Texas MCLE Credit:** Accredited for 11.75 MCLE hours, including 2.0 hours of legal ethics.

**Texas Board of Legal Specialization Credit:** Accredited in Civil Appellate Law, Civil Trial Law and Personal Injury Trial Law.

**Scholarships:** Limited, partial tuition scholarships are available for attorneys with government agencies and nonprofit organizations. Direct written requests to Jean Zoch, Associate Director.

**Judges:** Full-time active Texas court judges and associate judges may attend for a reduced tuition of \$75. Attendance is required. Call Kimberly Smith for more information at (713) 646-1757 or (800) 646-1253.

**Refund Policy:** Refunds, less a \$45.00 processing fee, are given to those who cancel in writing by 5:00 p.m., April 8, 2008. No refunds will be granted thereafter. Course materials will automatically be shipped via UPS (please allow 3

weeks for delivery) to prepaid registrants who were not able to attend. Substitute attendees are accepted.

**Hotel Accommodations:** Two great hotels in the Historic Humble Oil Building, located two blocks from the law school are each offering a rate of \$131 per night, guaranteed until **March 26, 2008**.

**Courtyard by Marriott**, 916 Dallas Street, Houston, Texas, (888) 269-2163.  
**Residence Inn by Marriott**, 904 Dallas Street, Houston, Texas, (800) 730-3931. Reservations may be made at <http://cwp.marriott.com/houdt/stcl/> or directly with the hotel. Please indicate you are attending the South Texas College of Law Continuing Legal Education program to receive the discount rate.

**Parking:** Fannin Garage, 1112 Clay Street (between Fannin and San Jacinto), \$5.00 per day (Early-Bird Special: Enter by 9:00 a.m. and pay only \$3.00), no in-and-out privileges. Reserved parking for the disabled on floors 5, 7, 9 and 11 near the elevator. Classified Parking System (surface lots at Polk and Austin), \$4.00 per day. Main Street Garage, 1301 Main Street, \$9.00 per day. Additional parking is available in garages and on surface lots near the law school.

**Special Accommodations:** For any special needs as addressed in the Americans with Disabilities Act, call Kimberly Smith at (713) 646-1757 or (800) 646-1253 by **March 14, 2008** or as soon thereafter as possible.

## Registration Form

South Texas College of Law

### Personal Injury Law Conference April 10-11, 2008

- \$385 for attorneys  
 \$325 for full-time paralegals

*Tuition includes continental breakfast, lunch, refreshments and course materials.*

- \$130 Course Materials Only - hardcopy (includes shipping & handling)

Name  Mr.  Ms. \_\_\_\_\_ Bar Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Firm \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

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**Payment Method:**  Check Enclosed (# \_\_\_\_\_) or, charge to:  AMEX®  MASTERCARD®  VISA®

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## TO REGISTER

**Phone:** (713) 646-1757 or  
(800) 646-1253

**Fax:** (713) 646-1780

**On-line:**  
[www.stcl.edu/cle/cle.html](http://www.stcl.edu/cle/cle.html)

**Mail-in:**  
South Texas College of Law  
CLE Department  
1303 San Jacinto, Room 1115  
Houston, TX 77002

Payments made to:  
South Texas College of Law

Credit Card payments must include an American Express, MasterCard or Visa number and expiration date.

**Confirm your registration at:**  
[www.stcl.edu/cle/registrationconfirmation.html](http://www.stcl.edu/cle/registrationconfirmation.html)  
**No written confirmation will be sent.**

Allow one week to process.

**No refunds after 5:00 p.m.,  
Wednesday, April 8, 2008.**  
See refund policy above.