

Anatomy of a Family Law Case

March 4, 2009

Accredited for 4.0 MCLE Hours (No ethics credit)

This optional session is designed for the new Family Law Practitioner. By attending this session, you will learn how to handle a family law case from seasoned family law attorneys. They will describe the entire process in detail, beginning with the first meeting with the client, and provide samples of the forms you

will need to complete for your client and the Court. Family Court Judges will tell you what they expect of attorneys who appear before them and you will receive practical tips designed to help you be the kind of attorney the court clerks and Court Coordinators like and respect.

23rd Annual FAMILY LAW CONFERENCE

March 5-6, 2009

Accredited for 13.0 MCLE Hours; 3.25 Ethics Hours

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
17.0 MCLE Hours (with the Optional Session), 3.25 Ethics Hours

23rd Annual FAMILY LAW CONFERENCE

Anatomy of a Family Law Case

Wednesday, March 4, 2009

- 12:00 **Registration**
- 12:20 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
 • Lisa L. Dahm, J.D., LL.M.-Health, *Director of CLE and Adjunct Professor, South Texas College of Law*
- 12:30 **Anatomy of a Family Law Case for the New Practitioner (4.0 hours)**
 • Hon. Bonnie C. Hellums, *Harris County District Court No. 247 Houston*
 • Carleen Johnson Robinson, *Court Coordinator, Harris County District Court No. 247 Houston*
 • Philip Placzek, *Law Offices of Philip Placzek Houston*
 • Carel L. Stith, *Law Offices of Carel Stith Houston*
 (There will be a 15 minute break during this session)
- 4:45 **Adjourn**

- **Initial Contact and Meeting With the Client** - What do you ask and what tools do you use?
- **What Do You File, and How Do You File It?** - What forms will you need to create and where do you file them?
- **Local Rules** - What you need to know before you get to court.
- **The Temporary Orders Hearing** - What is it? Where is it? Who needs to be there? What should you bring?
- **Discovery** - Is formal discovery mandatory? Can you use informal discovery? What do you need to get and from whom should you obtain it?
- **Settlement** - Can your client's dispute be resolved before trial? What do you do if you do settle? What forms must you complete, and how do you communicate the settlement to the court?
- **The Job Isn't Finished Until the Paperwork is Done!** - Final Orders
- **What Judges Are Looking For and What They Don't Want to See** - When you appear in court, what simple courtesies should you observe? How do you present evidence in the Family Law Courts? How do you ensure you are not the reason your client loses?
- **Family Law Forms from Start to Finish** - From the Court Coordinator - The court clerks and Court Coordinator are critical to your success. What forms must you complete? How can you be the kind of attorney the court clerks and Court Coordinator like and respect?

Total MCLE Hours for Wednesday: 4.0 hours (No ethics credit)

Thursday, March 5, 2009

- 8:00 **Registration and Continental Breakfast**
- 8:50 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
 • James J. Alfini, *Dean and President, South Texas College of Law*
 • Lisa L. Dahm, J.D., LL.M.-Health, *Director of CLE and Adjunct Professor, South Texas College of Law*
- Morning Moderator:**
Krista Harris, *Looper Reed and McGraw, P.C.*
- 9:00 **Legislative Update (.50 hour)**
 • Charlotte Rainwater, *Burgower and Rainwater, LLP Houston*
- 9:30 **UCCJEA and UIFSA - Can They Be Modified? (.50 hour)**
 • Angela Pence England, *Tindall & England, P.C. Houston*
- 10:00 **Fine-Tuning Your Case for the Judge (.50 hour)**
 • Hon. Roy L. Moore, *Associate Judge, Harris County District Court No. 245 Houston*
- 10:30 **Morning Break**
- 10:45 **Alimony and Spousal Support (.50 hour)**
 • A. Craig Haston, *Law Office of Craig Haston, P.C. Houston*
- 11:15 **Dealing with Clients with "Special Needs" (.75 hour)**
 • Jean Guez, Ph.D., *Houston*
- 12:00 **Lunch Break** (pick up lunch and return to the auditorium)
- 12:15 **Lunch Presentation**
Courtroom Professionalism and Etiquette - Judge's Perspective (1.0 hour)
(Ethics Topic)
 • Hon. Judy Warne, *Harris County District Court No. 257 Houston*
- 1:15 **After Lunch Break**
- Afternoon Moderator:**
Jennifer Barnes, *Peltier, Bosker & Griffin, P.C.*
- 1:30 **Using Electronic Evidence (.50 hour)**
 • Reginald A. Hirsch, *Law Office of Reginald A. Hirsch Houston*
- 2:00 **Dealing with Shadow People (.50 hour)**
(Includes .25 hour of legal ethics)
 • Janet P. Brumley, *Verner & Brumley, P.C. Dallas*
- 2:30 **HIPAA - How Does It Work (or Does It) In Family Law Cases (.50 hour)**
 • William B. Connolly, *Connolly & Shireman, LLP Houston*
 • Hon. Leta S. Parks, *Harris County District Court No. 247 Houston*
- 3:00 **Afternoon Break**
- 3:15 **Grandparents' Program Synopsis (.50 hour)**
 • Michael Childs, *Fullenweider Wilbite Houston*
- 3:45 **Common Law and Same Sex Marriages, Adult Adoptions, Maternity Tests, and other Unusual Topics (.50 hour)**
 • Sam M. "Trey" Yates, III, *Law Office of Sam M. "Trey" Yates, III, P.C. Houston*
- 4:15 **Adjourn**

Total MCLE Hours for Thursday:
 6.25 hours, including 1.25 hour of legal ethics

Friday, March 6, 2009

8:30 Continental Breakfast

8:50 Welcome Remarks

- Lisa L. Dahm, J.D., LL.M.-Health, *Director of CLE and Adjunct Professor, South Texas College of Law*

Morning Moderator:

Stacey A. Lafitte, Short & Carter & Morris, LLP

9:00 Show Cause Hearings at Breakneck Speed (.75 hour) (Includes .25 hour of legal ethics)

- John F. (Bo) Nichols, Jr., *Jenkins & Kamin, L.L.P. Houston*

9:45 Moving Away: Dealing with Residency Restriction Issues (.50 hour)

- Bret A. Bosker, *Peltier, Bosker & Griffin, P.C. Houston*
- Kate H. McConnico, *Looper Reed & McGraw, P.C. Houston*

10:15 Tips for Drafting Motions for Enforcement (.50 hour) (Includes .25 hour of legal ethics)

- Hon. David D. Farr, *Tindall & England, P.C. Houston*

10:45 Morning Break

11:00 Effective Use of Spreadsheets during Mediation (.50 hour)

- Steve A. Bavousett, *Law Office of Steve Bavousett Houston*
- Geoffrey S. Poll, CPA, JD, *Ferguson Camp Poll, P.C. Houston*

11:30 Unusual Property (including Stock) (.50 hour)

- Adam J. Morris, *Short & Carter & Morris, LLP Houston*

12:00 Lunch Break (pick up lunch and return to the auditorium)

12:15 Lunch Presentation

Courtroom Professionalism and Etiquette - Attorneys' Perspective (1.0 hour) (Ethics Topic)

- Eileen M. Gaffney, *Jenkins & Kamin, L.L.P. Houston*
- Deborah L. Wright, *Jenkins & Kamin, L.L.P. Houston*

1:15 After Lunch Break

Afternoon Moderator:

Nan Gibson, Jenkins & Kamin, L.L.P.

1:30 Post-Nuptial Agreements and other Partition and Exchange Agreements (.75 hour)

- Linda A. Hinds, *Fullenweider Wilbite Houston*
- Harry L. Tindall, *Tindall & England, P.C. Houston*
- Nicole Wood, *Fullenweider Wilbite Houston*

2:15 The Who, What, When, Where and How of a CPS Case (.75 hour)

(Includes .25 hour of legal ethics)

- Amy Thomas Perez, *Law Office of Craig Haston, P.C. Houston*
- Hon. Meca Walker, *Associate Judge, Harris County District Court No. 309 Houston*

Registration Form

Anatomy of a Family Law Case, March 4, 2009 23rd Annual Family Law Conference, March 5-6, 2009

1 23rd Annual Family Law Conference

- \$415 Attorneys (\$495 with the Anatomy of a Family Law Case session)
- \$325 Full-time Paralegals/Legal Assistants (\$400 with the Anatomy of a Family Law Case session)
- \$145 Anatomy of a Family Law Case Session Only (Wednesday, March 4, 2009)

I am unable to attend. Please ship me the course manual.

- \$145 Course Manual for the Family Law Conference Only - Hardcopy only
(includes shipping and handling)
Allow three weeks for delivery.

2 Name: _____ Bar Card No. : _____

Firm/Agency Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

3 American Express Master Card Visa

Card No.: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Check enclosed (Payable to South Texas College of Law) Check No. _____ Amount _____

23rd Annual FAMILY LAW CONFERENCE

- 3:00 **Appealing Your Family Law Case (.50 hour)**
• Chris Nickelson, *Law Office of Gary L. Nickelson*
Fort Worth
- 3:30 **Afternoon Break**
- 3:45 **Child Support and Health Care - Over, Above and Beyond (.50 hour)**
• Hon. Conrad L. Moren, *Associate Judge, Harris County*
District Court No. 310 Houston
- 4:15 **Humor and Perspective in Mediation (.50 hour)**
(Includes .25 hour of legal ethics)
• Jane Navid Joseph, *Jane Joseph, Attorney/Mediator*
Houston
- 4:45 **Adjourn**

Total MCLE Hours for Friday:
6.75 hours, including 2.0 hours of legal ethics

TO REGISTER

ONLINE (Credit card only) www.stcl.edu/cle/cle.html

PHONE (Credit card only) (713) 646-1757 or (800) 646-1253

FAX (Credit card only) (713) 646-1780

MAIL (Check or credit card)
South Texas College of Law
CLE Department
1303 San Jacinto, Suite 1115
Houston, TX 77002-7006

REGISTRATION

Tuition includes breakfast, lunch, refreshments and course manual. No written confirmations will be sent. Allow one week to process.

Confirm your registration at www.stcl.edu/cle/registrationconfirmation.html.

REFUND POLICY

Refunds, less a \$45.00 processing fee, will be given to those who cancel in writing by 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 3, 2009. No refunds will be granted thereafter.

ADDITIONAL ACCREDITATIONS

Accredited by the Board of Legal Specialization in Civil Appellate Law, Civil Trial Law, and Family Law.

PARKING

Fannin Garage, 1112 Clay Street, \$5.00 per day. (Early Bird Special: Enter by 9:00 a.m. and pay only \$3.50). Reserved parking for the disabled on floors 5, 7, 9 and 11 near the elevator.

Additional parking available at garages and 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 February 6, 2009 or as soon thereafter as possible.

Planning Committee

Bret A. Bosker, Chair
Peltier, Bosker & Griffin, P.C.

Jennifer Barnes
Peltier, Bosker & Griffin, P.C.

Stacy Brevard
Law Office of Craig Haston, P.C.

Michael Childs
Fullenweider Wilhite

Ana Galvan
Tindall & England, P.C.

Nan Gibson
Jenkins & Kamin, L.L.P.

Melody J. Goodwin
Burgower & Rainwater, LLP

A. Craig Haston
Law Office of Craig Haston, P.C.

Stacey A. Lafitte
Short ▪ Carter ▪ Morris, LLP

Mark Long
Peltier, Bosker & Griffin, P.C.

Kate H. McConnico
Looper Reed & McGraw, P.C.

Hon. Conrad L. Moren, Associate Judge
Harris County District Court No. 310

Cheryl O'Day
Looper Reed & McGraw, P.C.

Amy Thomas Perez
Law Office of Craig Haston, P.C.

Charlotte D. Rainwater
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Carel L. Stith
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Nicole Wood
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Director of CLE and Adjunct Professor
South Texas College of Law

Ben Santillán, Program Administrator
South Texas College of Law