Rhonda’s Farewell

2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE DOWNLOAD

A RECAP ON ALL THINGS CONFERENCE

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To my dearest TCCA friends and colleagues,

For those of you who know me well, you know that I absolutely love TCCA and serving our members. You also know that I am very passionate about our profession, the Certification Program and educating clerks so that we may excel in our cities and courts. There are times in our lives; however, when we are faced with choices and must make decisions that we know will have a great impact on ourselves, our families and many other people. Recently, I was faced with having to make one of those decisions. It wasn’t an easy decision and I spent a great amount of time contemplating the impact it would have on my life as well as TCCA. After much thought and a few tears, I have decided to retire from my city on February 3, 2020 to pursue an opportunity that has been offered to me and one that I simply cannot pass up for myself and my family.

I will also be resigning my position as TCCA President and stepping down from the Board effective November 30, 2019. Vice President, Landra Solansky, will be serving out the remainder of my term. She and I will do everything in our power to ensure a smooth transition for her to move into this new role. Landra and all who serve on the Board are some of the most amazing and hard working people I know and have had the pleasure to work with. I have no doubt that she and the Board will do many great things for TCCA and its members. Please know that I am so very grateful and blessed for the opportunities and experiences that TCCA has given me throughout my career. While I am sad to leave TCCA, my court, and my staff, I am excited to embark on a new endeavor and see where the future leads me. It has been an extreme honor and a pleasure to serve this organization and its members. TCCA and you all will forever hold a very special place in my heart.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Kuehn

RHONDA KUEHN, CMCC
COURT ADMINISTRATOR
CITY OF BRENHAM
FORMER TCCA PRESIDENT
# 2020
## TEXAS COURT CLERKS ASSOCIATION
### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

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<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>City</th>
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<td>President</td>
<td>Landra Solansky</td>
<td>Seguin</td>
<td>2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>April Christiansen</td>
<td>Cedar Park</td>
<td>2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>Lisa Howard</td>
<td>Hurst</td>
<td>2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Jennifer Dorsett</td>
<td>Watauga</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Kimberly Kierce</td>
<td>Richardson</td>
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### DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

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<td>Victoria</td>
<td>2020</td>
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<td>Jeremy Leonard</td>
<td>Desoto</td>
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<td>Nikki Ashley</td>
<td>Johnson County JP</td>
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<td>Robin Shellard</td>
<td>New Braunfels</td>
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<td>Mara Dudley</td>
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<td>Lisa Sechrest</td>
<td>Quinlan</td>
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### CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

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<td>FREEDOM TRAIL</td>
<td>Vivianna Farnsworth</td>
<td>Terrell Hills</td>
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<td>GULF COAST</td>
<td>Christina Dahse</td>
<td>Willis</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORTH TEXAS</td>
<td>Jennifer Bozorgnia</td>
<td>Irving</td>
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<td>NORTHEAST TEXAS</td>
<td>Lona Maxted</td>
<td>White Oak</td>
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<td>SOUTH TEXAS</td>
<td>Laura Garza</td>
<td>Corpus Christi</td>
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www.texascourtcourts.org
I remember seeing a quote years ago that always makes me smile, it read “Cinderella is Proof that a New Pair of Shoes can Change Your Life”. That quote has stuck with me through the years because it is true – and I happen to LOVE shoes!

After a recent conversation with TCCA President, Rhonda Kuehn, all I could think about was her shoes… and the many hats that go with them. When Rhonda shared her decision to retire with me – I was so excited for her! I had a thousand questions about what she planned for her future and all of the things you ask a great Friend when they announce an exciting change… then I heard the “shoe drop”! Her retirement meant that I would finish out her term as President. Of all the conversations Rhonda and I have had through the years – this is definitely not a call I was expecting.

Rhonda is one of the most passionate Clerks I have ever met. She loves TCCA and education has always been her main focus. Not only has she been an amazing President, she has been an amazing leader and mentor to all of us for many years. I know I speak for the membership when I say, Rhonda – we love you and we will miss you. Thank you for everything you have done for us and we wish you well in whatever the future holds for you and your precious family!

As we look forward to the next year, I truly believe the key to the future success of this association will be focusing on our next generation of leaders. As your new President, I am committed to working with each of you as we continue to encourage and support each other.

I hope you each have a wonderful Holiday Season and a Happy New Year!

Landra Solansky
It was another fantastic TCCA Conference held this year in San Marcos! For those who were able to attend, we hope you enjoyed yourselves as much as we did. For those who weren’t, we missed you! It was great seeing new faces, making new connections, celebrating each other and of course, learning new things! To all of those who contributed to ensure a successful event this year, THANK YOU! Participation from our amazing exhibitors, like top-sponsor Tyler Technologies, are the catalysts that guarantee this conference is possible each year. Without them and their support, it wouldn’t be such a positive experience, so another HUGE THANK YOU to all of them.

We’ve begun reviewing survey results to make the 2020 TCCA Conference EVEN BETTER! Our committee truly values your opinion and we appreciate those who took the time to participate. As we mentioned during our annual business meeting, being good stewards of the Association’s finances is a top priority, so we’re going back to the Embassy Suites, but don’t worry... we’re working hard to make this next year unique! Please make plans to join us October 11-14, 2020 for the next annual TCCA Conference right back in San Marcos!

2019 TCCA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Thank You for Attending
By Jennifer Bozorgnia, City of Irving

CONFERENCE BY THE NUMBERS

96.8% Enjoyed the 2019 TCCA Annual Conference

More than 53% thought the SPEAKERS were the best part!

83.9% used the Conference App on their smart device with 45.2% using it multiple times throughout the day!
The Conference Planning Committee Members keep a close eye on expenses throughout the year to make sure we stay within budget when planning our Annual Conference. It is a careful balancing act to spend our funds wisely while striving to give our delegates the best conference experience possible.

The chart below shows a breakdown of the 2019 Conference Expenses. Our goal is to provide quality education and networking opportunities to our members at a reasonable cost. Please remember to thank our Sponsors every chance you get, none of this would be possible without their support.

As a reminder, detailed financial reports are available to TCCA Members anytime on our website under the Financials tab. Visit: www.texascourtclerks.org/Financials

We appreciate all of you that completed the conference survey this year. Planning for the 2020 TCCA Conference is in full swing, your responses will help guide us as we make decisions for another amazing event. We look forward to seeing you again in San Marcos!
TCCA Scholarship & Success Stories
By Christina Dahse

The New Year is quickly approaching, and Board Members/Directors are already preparing for the 2020 Annual Conference. Be sure to prepare and submit applications for state and local chapter scholarships. These scholarships provide an opportunity for many who typically do not attend conference the ability to do so. Watch for notifications posting the opening of scholarship applications both at the State (March 1st), and local chapter (April 1st) levels. As a past scholarship winner, I can attest to the difference attending conference made in my professional career! The number of friendships and networking contacts made in those few days are simply amazing!

Don’t just take my word for it……..below are quotes from our 2019 scholarship recipients.

“Education opportunities were exciting, resources were found, networking groups and friendships were formed during my experience at this year’s TCCA conference, all afforded to me by being a scholarship recipient. Thank you!”
BERNADETTE ZAVALA
CITY OF BROOKSIDE VILLAGE MUNICIPAL COURT

“I am very thankful for the scholarship, for, without it, I would not have been able to attend and test for my Level III certification. The classes this year, I believe, were the best I’ve been to at conference-more hands on and participatory. But the best part is connecting with clerks from chapter and meeting new clerks across the state! Thank you again for the opportunity!”
JULIE MCGOWAN CCCII
CITY OF VAN

“I enjoyed attending the TCCA 2019 Annual Conference this year. I learned a lot, the TCCA staff/committee members were very nice, and I enjoyed receiving my Level III pin. Thank you very much for the opportunity to attend and I hope to attend again in the future. “
MICHELLE ALEXANDER, CMCC
WEBSTER MUNICIPAL COURT

“I had a wonderful over all fantastic time at the conference. Networking with the other clerks in a relaxed environment is probably the best part. It was my first TCCA conference and I will definitely want to attend next year. Thank you so much for the opportunity.”
VALERIE GONZALEZ
BRADY MUNICIPAL COURT

“I would like to thank TCCA for Receiving the scholarship! This was an opportunity to interact with other clerks across our profession. The classes and topics provided me with ideas and knowledge that I may have otherwise missed out on. It was very beneficial to have another way to obtain hours/education different from the same classes we usually attend.”
KENNETH MCGEHEE
BRENHAM MUNICIPAL COURT

“It was my first time to attend the annual conference in San Marcos and it was an awesome experience. I enjoyed the vendor presentations and the Embassy Suites Hotel was a wonderful atmosphere. This is an optimal location because it is centrally located within the state of Texas. Usually I am only able to attend the Juvenile Case Managers Conferences because they are required. The broader range of topics covered in the annual conference was very beneficial because I work with all defendants, not just juveniles.
SANDRA BURNETT
KATY MUNICIPAL COURT
Watch for notifications for the opening of scholarship applications both at the State (March 1st), and local chapter (April 1st) levels.
Play for a chance to win a $25 gift card!

ACROSS
5. What the ___ ___ brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the New Year. -Vern McLellan
7. It is not in the stars to hold our destiny, but in ___. -William Shakespeare
12. The ___ is the most important part of the work. -Plato
13. The best way to predict the ___ is to create it. -Abraham Lincoln
14. ___ shows no oly in the ability to persist, but the ability to start over. -F. Scott Fitzgerald
16. Cheers to a new year and another ___ for us to get it right. -Oprah Winfrey
17. I close my eyes and open my heart to new ___. -Nick Frederickson
18. Write it on your ___ that every day is the best day in the year. -Ralph Waldo Emerson
19. If you don’t like something, change it. If you can’t change it, change your ___. -Maya

DOWN
1. You do not find the ___ life, you make it. -Camilla Eyring Kimball
2. Whatever it is you are scared of doing, do it. Make your mistakes, next year and ___. -Neil Gaiman
3. ___ begins at the end of your comfort zone. -Neale Donald Walsch
4. Nothing in the universe can stop you from letting go and ___ over. -Guy Finley
6. It always seems impossible until it is ___. -Nelson Mandela
8. You don’t have to see the whole ___, just take the first step. -Martin Luther King
9. Go ___ in the direction of your dreams. -Henry David Thoreau
10. And now we ___ the new year, full of things that have never been. -Rainer Maria Rilke
11. The only person you are destined to become is the person you ___ to be. -Ralph Waldo Emerson
15. Every ___ beginning comes from some other beginning’s end. -Seneca
20. I like the ___ of the future better than the history of the past. -Thomas Jefferson

Two winners will be selected. One gift card will be donated by the Gulf Coast Trail Chapter and the other gift card will be provided by TCCA. Please email your answers to mdudley@cityofllano.com by January 24, 2019. The winner will be announced in our Facebook group and will be contacted directly by Mara on January 31, 2020. Good luck!
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Special Thanks To Our 2019 Sponsors
Thank you for being dedicated supporters of the work we do in municipal and justice courts! We truly could not hold a conference of this caliber without you! Sponsors are listed in alphabetical order.

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SILVER SPONSOR
Drum roll please... The Election Results are in and we are happy to announce that all Bylaw changes passed (see website for update) and the following were elected to fill important Board positions throughout the state.

**STATE ELECTION RESULTS**

**Vice-President**
April Christiansen, Cedar Park
Term Expires 2021

**Treasurer**
Kimberly Kierce, Richardson
Term Expires 2021

**Director at Large**
Mara Dudley, Llano
Term Expires 2021

**Director at Large**
Nikki Ashley, Johnson County
JP
*Appointed* Term Expires 2021

**Director at Large**
Lisa Sechrest, Quinlan
*Appointed* Term Expires 2021

**CHAPTER ELECTION RESULTS**

**FREEDOM TRAIL CHAPTER**

**Vice-President**
Andrea Goff, Helotes
Term Expires 2021

**Treasurer**
Stacy Martin, San Antonio
Term Expires 2021

**CENTRAL CHAPTER**

**Vice-President**
Chad Eixmann, Bryan
Term Expires 2021

**Treasurer**
Tracy Ventura, Liberty Hill
Term Expires 2021

**Secretaty**
Crystal Martinez, Cedar Park
*Appointed* Term Expires 2021

**GULF COAST CHAPTER**

**Treasurer**
Amy Baldwin, League City
Term Expires 2021

**NORTH CHAPTER**

**Treasurer**
Katy Tagg, Arlington
Term Expires 2021

**Director-at-Large**
Yolanda Kvaal, Frisco
Term Expires 2021

**BYLAW RESULTS** - All changes passed

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**By Involved**

**Apply for a Committee**

[CLICK SITE]
Norma West Receives the TCCA 2019 Excellence Award

By Landra Solansky

Norma West, Senior Court Clerk for the City of Missouri City Municipal Court, was awarded the Excellence Award by the Texas Court Clerks Association (TCCA) at their annual conference banquet on October 1, 2019 in San Marcos, Texas. The Excellence Award is one of the highest honors awarded by the Texas Court Clerks Association. It recognizes the exemplary performance of an individual in the court profession, serving in a non-judicial capacity, who brings honor, public awareness or enhances the image of the Association, and whose actions through major achievements, benefit the entire membership by consistently demonstrating professionalism and the pursuit of excellence. The recipient may receive this award only once in a lifetime and must have previously received the Distinguished Service and Extraordinary Achievement awards.

2019 TCCA AWARD RECIPIENTS

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<td>Allison Andrews, Keene</td>
<td>Norma West, Missouri City</td>
<td>Angie DeJesus, West Lake Hills</td>
<td>Tracie Glaeser, Retired</td>
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<td>Patti Veliz, Schertz</td>
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<td>Hilda Cuthbertson, Retired</td>
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<td>Sofia Cedillo, Seguin</td>
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<td>Shirley Herriage, Fort Worth</td>
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<td>Andria Crater, Fort Worth</td>
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And the Award Recipient(s) is....
2019 Conference Speakers

David Yebra
Surviving Emergency Situations

Katie Contreras
Stop The Bleed

Scott Shellstrom
Unleash Your Inner Da Vinci

Rodney Klein
Sexual Harassment Prevention in Today's Workplace

Scott Houston
Empowering Texas Court Clerks-
The Legislative Process

Bonnie Townsend, Kristine Hayman, Robin Shellard, and Tiffany Totah
2019 TCCA Conference Volunteers/Board Members

TCCA Board of Directors

Conference host, Jennifer Bozorgnia

Lona & Lisa Handing out goodie bags galore

Registration desk
North Texas Chapter Members,

Whew! What a year we’ve had! As we close out 2019, I wanted to take a brief moment to highlight what we’ve accomplished. First and foremost, our members are AWESOME! For each of you that have hosted or attended an event or education, given feedback on your needs or become more involved in what we do… THANK YOU! You are our lifeline and we couldn’t accomplish anything without you!

The mission of the Texas Court Clerks Association is “to provide members with a source of quality judicial education essential to establishing the highest level of professional standards and maintaining public confidence.” Because of that, as a chapter, we’ve strived to offer more frequent, quality education in varying locations. We’ve expanded topics and focused on the needs of our members. As of September of this year, we had already exceeded what we accomplished last year. We’ve reached more than 300 clerks, issuing more than 1,500 education hours towards certification, and we still had upcoming opportunities during the final quarter of the year!

North Texas continues to grow and, with that, our membership levels have as well. We’ve reached a record with more than 450 North Texas court clerks (both municipal and JP) that have taken advantage of the great benefits we have. I encourage all of you to continue sharing what TCCA means to you. If you know of a court that is a non-member and interested in finding out more about the Association, reach out to me and I can get them connected with some great opportunities.

Congratulations to the many deserving clerks who were awarded during our December Business meeting. In the next issue of The Scribe, I plan to recognize them in our Chapter Corner!

Finally, thank you to outgoing board members (pictured) Sheli Masterson (Vice President) and Janis Fletcher (Director at Large), for their service. In these volunteer roles, it is often that TCCA and City obligations must be carefully balanced. Both of these ladies have always represented our chapter professionally and with a servant’s heart. Their wisdom and guidance will be missed!

Each of these accomplishments are testimonies to the dedication of our Board and Chapter Members, and I couldn’t be more proud to serve as your Chapter President! Here’s to hoping 2020 is even better!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays, North Texas!

- Jennifer Bozorgnia, NTX Chapter President
Red Mass

The TCCA Freedom Trail Chapter participated in the St. Mary’s School of Law and the Catholic Lawyers’ Guild of San Antonio 67th Annual Red Mass on October 24, 2019 at San Fernando Cathedral in San Antonio, Texas.

The Red Mass is celebrated throughout the country for the purpose of requesting God’s blessings and guidance on the administration of Justice. Texas Court Clerks Association and the Freedom Trail Chapter was represented by the City of San Antonio Municipal Court Clerks carrying a banner in a procession through the Mass.

The Most Rev. Gustavo Garcia-Siller, M Sp S, Archbishop of San Antonio presided over this year’s Mass. The event was a success and was a great way to represent our organization in a positive way.

—Viviana Farnsworth, Freedom Trail Chapter President
Terrell Hills
Look Who’s Retiring!

The Central Texas Chapter would like to congratulate Cathy Leloux, Court Administrator for the Georgetown Municipal Court! Cathy will be retiring on January 30th, 2020, after 25 years of distinguished service. Cathy is a long-time TCCA member, Distinguished Service Award winner, Level III Certified Municipal Court Clerk, and a Certified Court Manager. Congratulations Cathy… May your retirement be filled with happiness, joy, and relaxation!!

“Cathy, (along with Barbara Shannon in Leander, and Christine Valdovino in Round Rock), was one of the first people I met when I started at the Cedar Park Municipal Court. Having previously only worked in higher level courts in a different state, I knew nothing about Texas law or municipal court procedure. Cathy’s kindness and willingness to answer my never-ending questions was a lifesaver in getting me through those early days. Thank you, Cathy!”

-April Christiansen, Central Chapter President
Cedar Park

Thank You!
Thanks to outgoing Chapter Vice President Luevada Posey, Executive Director of the Killeen Municipal Court. Thank you for your service to the Central Texas Chapter!

BOLO!
The Central TX Chapter is looking for ways to increase attendance at our bi-monthly trainings and chapter meetings. Shortly after the first of the year, we will be sending out an e-survey, seeking your input! Please let us know what we can do to help you attend!

Coming Soon:
We now have a full set of Level III Books available for our Chapter members to use at no charge! For more information please contact Mara Dudley at (325) 247-1928. The policy will be updated and posted on the website.
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| Samantha | Tiffany | | Sanchez |}

CMCC #105 Lacy Zapalac, League City
Fun facts from the Education & Certification Committee:
1. In AY19, 447 cities participated in the Certification Program.
2. The City of San Antonio has the highest number of employees participating in the Certification Program with a total of 67.
3. 10 Municipal Courts in the State have more than 1 clerk certified at Level III - Austin, Coppell, Friendswood, Katy, League City, Manor, Richardson, Round Rock, Sugar Land, and Webster.
4. Certified Clerks who have participated in the Certification Program the longest are Nancy Sanford (Crandall), Shona Bohon (Retired – Midland), and Jeanie Roumell (Westlake). All have participated in the Certification Program for 21 years!
5. There are 9 Judges in the State who hold a Level I certification and 20 Judges who hold a Level II certification.
6. There are 5 Judges in the State who hold a Level III certification:
   1. Carol Gauntt, Willow Park – 21 years in the Program
   2. Phyllis Mathison, Manor – 21 years in the Program
   3. Pamela Folsom, Lumberton – 21 years in the Program
   4. Bonnie Townsend, Luling – 16 years in the Program
   5. Erin Westmoreland, Lockhart – 8 years in the Program

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Active level I: 580
Active level II: 554
Active level III: 94 (113 total)
Future & Current Level 3 Members

This is an update regarding one of the required books for the Level III Certification program. Blue 360 is no longer distributing Court Security: For Judges, Officers and Court Personnel and the price on Amazon is costly.

Court Security Concepts is doing self-distribution and will gladly get one to you. The price is $25 plus shipping. You can purchase it by contacting Court Security Concepts by phone at (325) 315-4209. Website: [www.courtsecurityconcepts.com](http://www.courtsecurityconcepts.com)

All the chapters have been encouraged to purchase a set for loan if at all possible. You can check with your Chapter President to see if they have a loaner set available for you to borrow. The Education Committee also has a loaner set and has an additional 10 copies for those having difficulty finding it.

*Thanks and Read on!!!*
TCCA TRAINING CALENDAR
JANUARY 2020 - March 2020

To ensure that there are no delays in obtaining certification, please ensure that you are a TCCA or TMCA member in good standing before registering to test or remit the correct fee for non-member testing. Members of TCCA and Texas Municipal Courts Association (TMCA) will receive a $75.00 discount. Non-members will be invoiced for the balance due. Testing results will not be released until all outstanding fees are paid.

The academic year begins on September 1st and ends on August 31st each year. The renewal hours must be obtained within this time period each year. Hours are not allowed to be carried over or used from a previous year.

Visit the TCCA website to stay up-to-date on current and future training opportunities in 2020!

Check your status at www.tmcec.com
TCCA Training: www.txascourtclerks.org

Have a certification photo you want to share?
Email: texascourtclerks@yahoo.com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Education Topics</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 15, 2020</td>
<td>300 Krenk Tap Rd. College Station, TX 77840</td>
<td>Trafficking &amp; Sex Crimes: What Clerks, Judges, &amp; Magistrates Need to Know</td>
<td>8:30 am - 10:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 24, 2020</td>
<td>3741 S.W. Loop 820 Fort Worth, TX 76133</td>
<td>North Texas Chapter Training</td>
<td>8:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 31, 2020</td>
<td>1600 Whitaker Dr. Friendswood, TX 77546</td>
<td>Level 1 Prep Session &amp; Level 2 Prep Session</td>
<td>9:00 am - 1:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 19, 2020</td>
<td>300 Krenk Tap Rd. College Station, TX 77840</td>
<td>Trafficking &amp; Sex Crimes: What Clerks, Judges, &amp; Magistrates Need to Know</td>
<td>8:30 am - 10:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 28, 2020</td>
<td>825-B Thousand Oaks Dr. 3rd Floor Training Room Hurst, TX 76054</td>
<td>Level 1 Prep Session &amp; Level 2 Prep Session</td>
<td>9:00 am - 1:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 11, 2020</td>
<td>6427 Evers Rd. San Antonio, TX 78238</td>
<td>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM - “Gender Socialization”</td>
<td>9:00 am - 12:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM - “Sexual Assault 101”</td>
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</tbody>
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