

# FY25 JP 20-Hour Agenda

<b>Travel &amp; Registration Day</b>			
3:00-5:00	Registration		
<b>Day 1</b>			
7:00-8:00	Breakfast & Registration		
8:00-10:00	Building Bridges: Courts & the Community		
10:00-11:00	Centers of Excellence Program		
11:00-12:00	An Interview on Judicial Ethics		
12:00-1:00	Lunch		
1:00-2:00	Southern Hospitality 2.0		
2:00-3:00	De-Mystifying the Media		
3:00-5:00	Looking Good: Avoiding Common Mistakes		
<b>Day 2</b>			
7:00-8:00	Breakfast		
8:00-10:00	Handling Out-of-County Warrants	Rowdy Receivership and Exciting Exempt Property	Evictions Scenarios
10:00-12:00	Dangerous Dogs & Cruelly Treated Animals	Criminal Procedure Scenarios	Debts and Disagreements: Civil Scenarios
12:00-1:00	Lunch		
1:00-2:00	Civil Evidence: Guidelines and Best Practices	Mental Health Detention	Contempt
2:00-3:00	Evidence in Criminal Cases	Don't Skip this Class – Truancy Solutions	Appeals in County Court
3:00-5:00	Inquests: Death Investigations & Reporting	Decoding Precedent	Squatters & Landlord/Tenant Relationships
<b>Day 3</b>			
7:00-8:00	Breakfast		
8:00-10:00	Children in the Courts: Diversion and Supporting Success		
10:00-12:00	Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Courts		

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## ***Course Descriptions***

### **General Session: Building Bridges: Courts & the Community**

How do courts foster confidence in the judiciary within their community? This class examines resources and strategies for judges to build bridges, relationships, and understanding.

### **General Session: Centers of Excellence Program**

This class will cover OCA's Centers of Excellence Program, including how courts can participate and the benefits of doing so.

### **General Session: An Interview on Judicial Ethics**

Join Judge Holly Williamson for an interview with Jacqueline Habersham, Executive Director of the Texas State Commission on Judicial Conduct, focused on the judicial conduct process and judicial ethics.

### **General Session: Southern Hospitality 2.0**

Southern Hospitality is way more than just saying "bless your heart." This class will focus on ways our courts can foster a welcoming environment that is accessible for everyone to ensure justice and fairness for all.

### **General Session: De-Mystifying the Media**

Does social media stress you out? This class will focus on the do's and don'ts of social media, press releases, and responding to media requests for justices of the peace.

### **General Session: Looking Good: Avoiding Common Mistakes**

One of the fastest ways to undermine confidence in the court system is when the court makes legal errors that infringe on the rights of others. This course will examine some of the common ways courts fall into this trap.

### **Breakout Course: Handling Out-of-County Warrants**

Out-of-county warrants pose some unique challenges, which will be covered in this class. Topics will include determining if you have jurisdiction to make a bail decision, understanding problems that arise if procedures aren't followed, and dealing with out-of-state warrants.

### **Breakout Course: Rowdy Receivership and Exciting Exempt Property**

What powers can receivers have? Can that be seized? This class will explore how exempt property and other issues arise in receiverships and other post-judgment writs.

### **Breakout Course: Evictions Scenarios**

Evictions can be some of the trickiest cases justice courts encounter. This class will address eviction issues through scenarios on various topics that are taken from real life examples.

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## **Breakout Course: Dangerous Dogs & Cruelly Treated Animals**

In this class, attendees will discuss various scenarios related to dangerous dog and cruelly treated animal cases. *Note that some images used for scenarios may be graphic.*

## **Breakout Course: Criminal Procedure Scenarios**

This course will explore various options in criminal cases by examining different circumstances that judges are likely to encounter in real life.

## **Breakout Course: Debts and Disagreements: Civil Scenarios**

In this class, attendees will discuss a variety of different scenarios that could arise in small claim and debt claim cases.

## **Breakout Course: Civil Evidence: Guidelines and Best Practices**

Justice court civil rules and procedures for evidence are often different than other courts. This class will explore those differences and cover the standards and best practices so justice courts can deal with evidence correctly.

## **Breakout Course: Mental Health Detention**

Many JPs, as part of their magistrate duties, handle emergency detention orders (EDOs) for their county. This course will provide an overview of emergency mental health detention, recent legislative changes to this process, and valuable resources to enable your court to effectively assist the community in a situation when an EDO may be needed in the future.

## **Breakout Course: Contempt**

Holding someone in contempt is one of the most severe powers a judge has. This course will address the unique issues concerning this option.

## **Breakout Course: Evidence in Criminal Cases**

A defendant cannot be convicted unless the state has proven their case beyond a reasonable doubt. This requires that the state satisfy the rules of evidence to prove its case. This class will address common evidentiary issues you will encounter at trial.

## **Breakout Course: Don't Skip this Class – Truancy Solutions**

There are many reasons a child may be truant, including lack of initiative, drug use, domestic violence, and bullying. In this class, students will discuss various strategies for addressing truancy and learn how those strategies may apply to different scenarios.

## **Breakout Course: Appeals in County Court**

What happens when a case moves on from justice court? Hear from a former JP and county judge on the issues that arise when a case is sent up on appeal, when it can be sent back, and more.

## **Breakout Course: Inquests: Death Investigations & Reporting**

This course will provide a general overview of the death investigation process and required death reporting.

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## **Breakout Course: Decoding Precedent**

This course will provide you with essential skills in reading and analyzing law from appellate courts. This class explores how to interpret legal precedents, understand legal reasoning, and apply these insights to your role in dispensing justice.

## **Breakout Course: Squatters and Landlord/Tenant Relationships**

This class will cover squatters, occupants, and the different types of landlord/tenant relationships and how each impacts eviction case procedures. We will also discuss when an eviction is required and when other options are appropriate.

## **Children in the Courts: Diversion and Supporting Success**

This course will explore the new juvenile diversion process including potential issues related to language access, mental health concerns, and disabilities. This course satisfies the requirement of Government Code Sec. 22.1105.

## **Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Courts**

Are robots really going to be ruling the world? Joshua Weaver, an expert in the legal AI field, will help judges navigate the opportunities and pitfalls of the rise of AI in the courts.