

Conflict Resolution & De-Escalation: Panel Discussion

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TJCTC Programs are an educational endeavor of the Justices of the Peace and Constable's Association of Texas, Inc. and funded by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals and the Texas Department of Transportation.

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Agenda

- Conflict
- Sovereign Citizens & First Amendment Auditors
- Correspondence
- Security
- Resources

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Conflict

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Conflict with Lawyers or Parties

- Chain of communication
- *“I don’t know, let me make sure we get the right answer for you.”*
- Avoiding ex parte communication
- Perception is important

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**What if the judge does
something wrong?**

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Inner-Office Conflict

- Best Practices Discussion

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**What if another elected official
thinks that they can tell you
what to do?**

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Communication is Key!!!

There will be another general session that will discuss further.

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**Sovereign Citizens
&
First Amendment
Auditors**

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Who are we talking about?

- The Republic of Texas
- Moorish Sovereign Citizens
(Moorish Nationals, Indigenous Americans, etc.)
- Washitaw Nation
- Freemen on the Land
- American State Nationals (ASN)
- Constitutionalists
- Non-Resident Aliens/U.S. Nationals
- Secure Party Creditors
- Any other names that you know?

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Sovereign Citizens Tips

- Keep a calm demeanor
- Don't take anything they say or do personally
- Keep consistent communication – use forms and templates
- Keep it professional
- Officer presence for court security
- Case scheduling
- Lay out the rules ahead of time

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Correspondence Between Bailiff /Constable & Clerks

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**Do you talk to your constable
and/or bailiff about court
procedures?**

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Court Security

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**Do you have a plan in your
office?**

- Office of Court Administration (OCA) has resources.

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OCA Court Security Assessments

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Poll: Does your court report security incidents to OCA?

- Yes
- No
- I didn't know we had to.
- We have never had an incident.

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Did you know that a reportable incident could happen outside the courtroom?

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Each County has a Court Security Committee

- JPs and Constables are both members
- Input from court personnel to these members is helpful.

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What do your offices do?

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Class Discussion

- We talked about sovereign citizens and members of the public who might cause a scene or get upset in court or your office lobby.
- Work together at your table to discuss what your safety plan should be for this situation.

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Resources

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Important Links

- OCA Court Security -
[https://www.txcourts.gov/programs-
services/court-security/](https://www.txcourts.gov/programs-services/court-security/)
- <https://www.mentalhealth.com/>
- <https://www.nami.org/>
- <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/>

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