



TRUTH, JUSTICE AND INFORMATION FOR ALL

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE COLLIN COUNTY LAW LIBRARY

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WWW.COLLINCOUNTYTX.GOV

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Useful Internet Sites and Articles

CLE Materials Available in the Library

The law library has several State Bar CLE materials available for checkout and has made some changes to the courses we carry. Changes and new materials are summarized below.

Current CLE for credit:

Representing Parents and Children in CPS Cases

The library used to make both of these courses available to attorneys for self-study credit but the materials have been updated and are now only available on the State Bar website.

Advanced Guardianship Law CLE 2014

The law library still has the Advanced Guardianship Law CLE material available for attorney checkout. This will be replaced with the 2015 material when the library receives it. If this material is checked out from the law library it is for self-study credit only.

Advanced Criminal Law CLE 2014

In an effort to assist attorneys in meeting the requirements for county court appointments, the law library has the 2014 Advanced Criminal Law Course CLE available for attorney check out and full CLE credit. The cost associated with taking the course is \$372.00, payable to the State Bar of Texas. In exchange for this fee, the attorney can check out the DVD's from the library for 30 days and receive a copy of the CLE materials to keep. The course provides 37.25 hours of participatory credit, including 2.25 hours of ethics credit. Once the course has been completed, the attorney will enter his or her hours in the "My Bar Page" of the state bar website. Please call the library at 972-548-4260 to check availability of the course materials.

New CLE reference materials:

Estate Planning & Probate Drafting 2014

This comprehensive CLE was prepared by probate attorneys for seasoned and new probate attorneys alike and contains both forms and drafting examples for estate planning, trust and estate administration, and probate litigation. Some of the sections include how to integrate retirement and trust funds into estate planning, drafting and enforcing settlement agreements, and how to handle marital property agreements.

Advanced Real Estate Law Course 2014

The 36th Annual Real Estate Law Course 2014 starts with a case law update, keeping practitioners current on changes in all areas of real estate law, including mortgages, deeds, leases, and mechanic's liens. There is an interesting chapter entitled "Weird Leases and Lease Situations" which covers unique situations such as drafting leases for storage units, bars, and medical use. The CLE comes with model lease language and forms.

Advanced Family Law Course 2014

This 3 volume set consists of many useful articles affecting the practice of family law. The first volume contains useful legal updates for various areas of family law, an explanation of how social media affects attorneys, and steps in drafting and enforcing premarital and marital settlements. Volume 2 contains articles about different ways to trace separate property, how business entities affect family law cases, spousal maintenance, and unusual possession orders. One of the most interesting articles in Volume 3 of the course is the article entitled *The Trial of a Family Law Jury Case*. The article walks the reader through every step of the trial process and includes sample motions, a chart of commonly used objections and sample jury questionnaires and *voir dire* questions. See page 3 for information on how to access State Bar of Texas CLE material online.

Copies of these articles are available in the library, or from the law librarian via email:

droberts@co.collin.tx.us

Spotlight on the Supremes

On March 10, 2015, the Texas Supreme Court amended the Texas Rules of Evidence. These amendments went into effect on April 1. Many of the rule changes are merely stylistic but two rules (Rule 511 and Rule 613) were substantially changed. According to the Supreme Court Order, the stylistic changes were done with the purpose of keeping the Texas Rules consistent with the Federal Rules. The Order Adopting Amendments to the Texas Rules of Evidence may be viewed at:

http://www.texasbar.com/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Texas_Bar_Journal2&Template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=27715. The library has a supplement to the *Texas Rules of Evidence Handbook* which is extremely useful because it has a table comparing both the old and amended rules. The supplement also explains the changes made to Rule 511 and Rule 613 in great detail. Please ask the librarians for the supplement.

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Hours of Operation:
Monday–Friday
8:00 am–5:00 pm

Did You Know?

On April 16, 2015 the House Business and Industry Committee passed House Bill 1603. House Bill 1603 creates a chancery court system that would only handle complex business litigation. Representative Jason Villalba from Dallas explains, “[T]his is a highly specialized court that’s meant to be putting a laser focus on a very small number of cases that come up in Texas every year that are business oriented and highly complex.” If the chancery courts are created, Texas would be the 27th state to have such a system. The bill is currently in the hands of the Calendars Committee which will decide if and when the bill will be placed on the agenda for a vote. The complete article is in the April 27, 2015 *Texas Lawyer*, available in the law library.



Library Reminders

Book Returns– The Collin County Law Library allows attorneys to check out most books for a 72 hour period. Reminders to return the books will be emailed a day before the book is due. If there is an issue with returning the book on-time, please call the library and let us know.

Attorney IOUs– While smaller, the library still has an uncollected balance from Attorney IOUs. Thank you to the attorneys who consistently pay their IOUs every month. If outstanding amounts remain uncollected, IOUs will be discontinued. Please ensure that any outstanding balances are paid immediately.



How to Access CLE Material From the State Bar Website

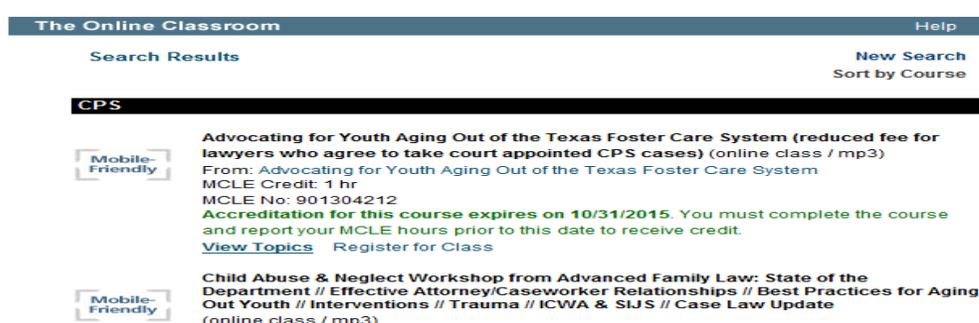
The State Bar of Texas website has a number of CLE courses available for credit. In order to access the material, go to www.texasbarcle.com and click on Search the Classroom:



Once in the “Classroom” the attorney can select a practice area to view the CLE materials in that specific area:



Click Search again and a list of all the CLE material in that area will appear:



Tech Tips: More Useful Apps and Law Blogs

- <https://www.grc.com/haystack.htm>— a useful website that analyzes the strength of a password. Here is a link to a news story explaining how the website works: <http://abc7.com/archive/8361856/>.
- <http://justdelete.me/> - a comprehensive website that explains how to delete an account or a subscription from a number of web services and websites.
- <http://lawhaha.com/> - a lighter look at the law. The website has weird patents, real-life examples of torts, and strange judicial opinions.
- <http://www.whatwasthere.com/> - a “virtual time machine” that shows what cities, streets, and towns looked like in the past by searching either by year or location.



The Law Library

will be closed

on Monday, May

25th for Memorial

Day and on Friday,

July 3rd for In

dependence Day.



New on the Shelf:

- Bender's Immigration and Nationality Act Pamphlet , 2015 Edition
- O'Connor's Texas Family Law Forms Enforcement, 2015
- Preparing for Trial in Federal Court—Revision 4
- Handbook of Texas Lawyer and Judicial Ethics: Attorney Tort Standards and Attorney Ethics Standards, 2015
- Rights of Juveniles, 2015 Edition
- Federal Criminal Code and Rules, 2015 Edition
- Vehicle Search Law Deskbook, 2014-2015 Edition
- Black's Law Dictionary, 10th Edition
- Federal Civil Judicial Procedure and Rules, 2015 Edition
- Federal Criminal Appeals Volume 1, 2015 Edition
- Punishment & Probation, 2014 Edition
- Federal Criminal Practice, 2014-2015 Edition
- A Cup of Coffee with 10 of the Top DUI Attorneys in the United States
- Texas Practitioner's Guide to Civil Appeals, 2015
- O'Connor's Federal Employment Codes, 2015

A Little Legal Humor

