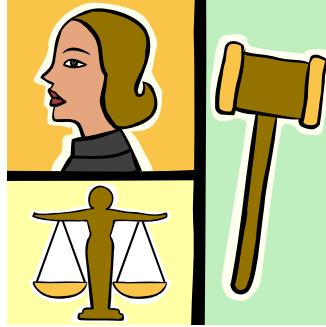




# **HOUSTON PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION**

*An Affiliate of the National Association of Legal Assistants, Inc.*

*Invites you to attend our  
Thirteenth Annual Spring Continuing  
Legal Education Conference*



# ***ADVANCED CLE PARALEGAL CONFERENCE 2016***

**Friday, April 29, 2016  
Galveston Island Convention Center,  
Galveston, Texas**

**Approved by NALA for 6.0 general credit hours.  
Approved for 6.0 hours by TBLS in the following specialties:  
Bankruptcy Law, Civil Law, Criminal Law, Estate Planning & Probate Law, Family Law,  
Personal Injury Trial Law, and Real Estate Law**



## Hotel Accommodations, Parking and Directions

A block of rooms has been reserved for our event at Hilton Galveston Island Resort, which is adjacent to the Convention Center. The room rate is \$139 on Thursday and Friday night for a double room, if booked before April 8, 2016. Hilton Galveston Island Resort will not honor these rates after that date. Complimentary Wi-Fi in your room is included. A charge will appear on the room invoice, but it will be credited upon check-out. Complimentary parking is located behind the hotel.

For directions and reservations, please visit [www.galvestonhilton.com](http://www.galvestonhilton.com)



### **Join us on Thursday at our Welcome Social**

**When:** Thursday, April 28, 2016  
**Place:** Crystal C Ballroom  
Hilton Galveston Island Resort  
**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

### Become a Member of HPA

Please consider membership with Houston Paralegal Association. As a member, you will enjoy the benefits of networking, access to our job bank, qualify for member discounts on continuing education, and enjoy our social events. To join as an Active Member, attorney signature is required for authentication. Membership Fees: Active - \$35; Associate - \$25.



To join, please complete the required Membership Application portion of the conference registration form for the 2016 Advanced CLE Paralegal Conference.

Make your check payable to Houston Paralegal Association and mail completed registration form and payment to: Linda Carrette, Strasburger & Price LLP, 909 Fannin St., Suite 2300, Houston, TX 77010-1036, or pay online via PayPal or by credit card, at [www.hpatx.us](http://www.hpatx.us)

# **Conference Agenda**

*[Speaker biographies are located at the end of the brochure]*

- 7:30 - 8:30 **Registration and Continental Breakfast** (*Pre-function Area - 1st Floor*)
- 7:30 – 3:30 **Exhibitors Hall Open** (*Pre-function Area - 1st Floor*)
- 8:20 – 8:30 **Welcome and Announcements**
- 8:30 – 9:30 **Security Awareness: Keeping Your Client's Confidential Information Secure**  
*James T. Morrison, US Dept. of Justice, FBI - Houston-Division*



## **TRACK 1**

## **TRACK 2**

- 9:30 - 10:30 **Overview of the Unlawful Open Carry Act In Texas**  
*Larry P. McDougal, Esq.*  
*Law Office of Larry P. McDougal*  
*Richmond, TX*
- 10:30 – 11:00 **Mid-Morning Break** (*Pre-function Area - 1st Floor*)
- 11:00 – Noon **Does Anti-SLAPP Apply to Your Lawsuit? You Might Be Surprised**  
*Geoff Gannaway, Esq.*  
*Beck Redden LLP*  
*Houston, TX*
- 12:00 – 1:15 **Luncheon** (*Pre-function Area - 1st Floor*)
- 1:15 – 2:15 **What Have You Done To Me Lately: Navigating the New Federal Rules**  
*Jerry Mitchell, Esq.*  
*Fulkerson Lotz LLP*  
*Houston, TX*
- 2:15 – 3:15 **Vex My Soul: A Primer on Vexatious Litigation**  
*Frank Carroll, Esq.*  
*Roberts Markel Weinberg Butler Hailey PC*  
*Houston, TX*
- A Journey Through the Evolution of Hospitality Law**  
*Steven Barth*  
*Conrad Hilton School of Hotel & Restaurant Management*  
*University of Houston, Houston, TX*
- A Primer for the Non-Probate Practitioner**  
*Honorable RuthAnn Stiles*  
*Associate Judge, Harris County Probate Court*  
*Houston, TX*
- Real Estate Transactions: Drafting the Fundamental Documents**  
*Rick Barker, Esq.*  
*Roberts Markel Weinberg Butler Hailey PC*  
*Houston, TX*
- Hot Topics in Bankruptcy**  
*June Mann, Esq.*  
*David DeSoto, Esq.*  
*Mann Law Firm PLLC*  
*Houston, TX*

**Just Added: a special break out session for students:**

**Paralegal 101:** a question & answer forum with a paralegal panel

- 3:15 – 3:30 **Mid-Afternoon Break** (*Pre-function Area - 1st Floor*)
- 3:30 – 4:30 **Federal Garnishments & Financial Litigation**  
*Martha Minnis, Esq.*  
*US Attorney's Office, SDTX*  
*Houston, TX*
- 4:30 - 5:30 **Bingo Grand Prize Winner Announced and Sunset Social**
- Helping Attorneys and their Clients Prepare for Mediation and Arbitration**  
*Michael Wilk*  
*Hirsch & Westheimer, PC*  
*Houston, TX*

This advanced full-day conference is taught by attorneys and professionals in the legal industry, is specifically designed for paralegals and other legal professionals, and includes time for your questions. Fees include a continental breakfast, lunch, afternoon snack and course materials. Wi-Fi in the Conference Center is complimentary.

Approved by **NALA** for 6.0 general credit hours and approved for 6.0 hours by **TBLS** in the following specialties: Bankruptcy Law, Civil Law, Criminal Law, Estate Planning & Probate Law, Family Law, Personal Injury Trial Law, and Real Estate Law

**Mail Registration Deadline: April 22, 2016. All registration forms post-marked after April 22, 2016, will incur a \$10 late registration fee.**

Registration Form



**REGISTRATION DEADLINE Is Friday, April 22, 2016**

**REGISTRATION FEES:**

\$100 for HPA members  
\$135 for non-members  
\$130 for nonmember plus  
HPA membership  
\$50 for students

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION:**

if received by Mar. 31, 2016  
\$80 for HPA members  
\$115 -for non-members  
\$110 for nonmember plus  
HPA membership

A late fee of \$10 will be assessed on all forms post-marked after April 22, 2016. Walk-ins the morning of the Seminar will be accepted upon payment of late fees, providing space and materials are available. Your registration fee includes course materials in electronic format (including speaker biographies and hand-outs), continental breakfast, lunch, afternoon snack, and entry to Thursday's Welcome Social and Friday's Sunset Social.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Firm/School \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_



I plan to attend \_\_\_\_\_ Thursday's Welcome Social  
I plan to attend \_\_\_\_\_ Friday's Sunset Social

**Save \$5 On your Registration By Becoming a Member of HPA**

**ATTENTION NON-MEMBERS:** If you are not a member of HPA, you may join HPA when you register for the CLE conference and save **\$5** on your registration. Please complete the information below and pay a fee of **\$130**.

**NOTE:** An Attorney's signature is required to verify employment for all Active Memberships.

Attorney Name [Printed] \_\_\_\_\_ Bar No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**TO REGISTER,** make your check payable to: **Houston Paralegal Association** and mail completed registration form and payment to: **Linda Carrette, Strasburger & Price LLP, 909 Fannin St., Suite 2300, Houston, TX 77010-1036.** For questions, contact HPA at [admin@hpatx.us](mailto:admin@hpatx.us). Or, pay online via PayPal or by credit card, at [www.hpatx.us](http://www.hpatx.us).

**CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY:** Registrants who find that they cannot attend and would like a refund must send their request in writing **before April 22, 2016**. Tuition fee refunds (less \$35 pre-paid luncheon fee) are granted, if received in writing by April 22, 2016. Please email your requests to [admin@hpatx.us](mailto:admin@hpatx.us).

## ***Meet Our Speakers***

**James T. Morrison** works in the computer science department of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Houston Division. He is a frequent speaker on the topic of international cyber security.

**Larry P. McDougal** has a practice in Richmond, TX specializing in criminal and civil litigation. He earned an A.A.S. in Law Enforcement from Wharton County Junior College, a B.A. in Criminal Justice, with honors, from the University of Houston, and his Juris Doctor from South Texas College of Law. Prior to his legal career, he served as a peace officer in Wharton County and Fort Bend County. In 2015, he was awarded the Most Outstanding Director Award, by the State Bar of Texas, Board of Directors.

**Steven Barth** is an attorney and a professor at the Conrad N. Hilton College, University of Houston, where he teaches courses in hospitality law and leadership. In addition to legal and risk management insight, Mr. Barth specializes in communicating the importance of Emotional Intelligence in leadership roles. He is the founder of HospitalityLawyer.com and the Global Congress on Travel Risk Management. He is the author of *Hospitality Law and Intelligent Emotions*.

**Geoff Gannaway** is a partner at Beck Redden, where he focuses his practice in business litigation. He earned a B.A. in Economics and Chemical Engineering from Rice University, graduating *magna cum laude*, and earned his Juris Doctor, with highest honors, from the University of Texas School of Law. He was named a Texas Super Lawyer in Business Litigation in 2015 and served as a council member of the Litigation Section of the State Bar of Texas from 2012 - 2015.

**Honorable RuthAnn Stiles** is an Associate Judge for Harris County Probate Court No. 1. She earned a B.A. in Psychology from Vanderbilt University and her Juris Doctor from the University of Houston Law Center.

**Jerry Mitchell** is a partner at Fulkerson Lotz LLP where he focuses his practice on commercial litigation, particularly in the energy, petro-chemical, and natural gas pipeline fields. He earned a B.A., *summa cum laude*, from Sam Houston State University and his Juris Doctor, with honors, from Baylor School of Law. He serves as a volunteers on-air reader for the blind for Sight into Sound radio.

**Rick Barker** is an associate at Roberts Markel Weinberg Butler Hailey PC working in the transactional section on a variety of corporate and real estate matters. He earned a B.A. in Mathematics from the University of Houston Clear Lake and graduated *cum laude* from the University of Houston Law Center, where he served as the Executive Director of the Houston Business and Tax Law Journal.

**Frank O. Carroll, III** is a trial and appellate attorney at Roberts Markel Weinberg Butler Hailey PC representing individuals and corporations in a variety of legal disputes ranging from catastrophic injury to complex commercial litigation. He completed his undergraduate studies at The University of California at San Diego and earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Houston Law Center. He is the Editor-In-Chief of TexAppBlog.com, an appellate law blog for non-appellate lawyers, and coaches moot court and mock trial at the University of Houston Law Center.

**June Mann** is a Partner at Mann Law Firm PLLC and focuses her practice on various aspects of bankruptcy litigation, representing creditors, debtors, and trustees in Chapter 7, 11 and 13 cases. She received a B.S. from the University of Texas and her Juris Doctor from the University of Houston Law Center. June also serves as a mediator in civil cases involving an expansive assortment of issues.

**David DeSoto** is a senior associate in the Houston, Texas office of Mann Law Firm PLLC and his practice focuses on various aspects of state and federal litigation, representing individuals and institutions in collection matters and bankruptcy cases. He received a B.A. in History from the University of Texas San Antonio and his Juris Doctor from the Texas Tech University School of Law. He also serves as a volunteer mediator with the Houston Dispute Resolution Center.

**Martha Minnis** is an attorney for the United States Attorney's Office in for the Southern District of Texas in the Asset Forfeiture/Financial Litigation division.

**Michael Wilk** is President of Hirsch & Westheimer, PC. He joined the firm upon graduation, with honors, from the University of Texas School of Law. Since 2013, he has focused his practice almost exclusively on ADR. He has been recognized as a Texas Super Lawyer for ADR from 2003 - 2015.

## ***ADVANCED CLE PARALEGAL CONFERENCE 2016*** ***Exhibitors and Sponsors***

Houston Paralegal Association sincerely thanks the outstanding legal support companies for sponsoring and/or exhibiting at our conference. We are grateful to them for contributing to the continued success of our annual conference. Please visit with all our sponsors/exhibitors at their exhibit tables to extend your thanks in helping to make continuing legal education affordable for all.

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***For more information about Houston Paralegal Association, please visit our website at***  
***[www.hpatx.us](http://www.hpatx.us)***

### **CONFERENCE SPEAKER COMMITTEE:**

**Sheri Anderson, CP, CLE Chair**   **Montye Holmes, ACP, Conference Chair**  
**Nichole Moore**   **Linda Carrette, CP, TBLS-BCP**   **Ruth Conley, ACP**  
**Stephanie Rodriguez, ACP, TBLS\_BCP**   **Carla Valenzuela, CP**  
**Mary Shiloh, TBLS-BCP**   **Gina Holder, Exhibitor Chair**

***We look forward***  
***to seeing you in Galveston***