

# 2-Day Regional Workshop

with optional 2-hour add-on introductory session on Wednesday

## Austin, Texas

### Wednesday, March 13, 2024

**2:00 PM TO 4:00 PM**

**Registration**

**4:00 PM TO 6:00 PM**

**Clerks Breakout Session - Legislative Updates and Hot Topics**

Catherine L. Horvath, Retired Chief Deputy Clerk  
Deborah Mendez, Dir. of the Probate Division, Travis County Clerk's Office

**Courts Breakout Session - Legislative Updates and Handling the Law Practice of a Deceased Attorney**

Craig Hopper, Hopper Mikeska, PLLC, Austin, Texas,  
Clint Alexander, Barnes Lipscomb & Stewart, PLLC, Austin,

### Thursday, March 14, 2024

**Registration & Breakfast begins at 7:15am**

**7:45 AM TO 8:00 AM**

**Welcoming Remarks**

Guy Herman, TCPJ President

**8:00 AM TO 8:15 AM**

**Overview of Probate & Probating a Will**

Craig Hopper, Hopper Mikeska, PLLC, Austin, Texas

**8:15 AM TO 9:30 AM**

**Independent & Dependent Administrations**

Craig Hopper, Hopper Mikeska, PLLC, Austin, Texas

**9:30 AM TO 9:45 AM**

**Coffee Break**

**9:45 AM TO 10:45 AM**

**Notice and Citation in Probate Court**

Catherine L. Horvath, Retired Chief Deputy Clerk

**10:45 AM TO NOON**

**Heirship Proceedings & Small Estate Affidavits**

Clint Alexander, Barnes Lipscomb & Stewart, PLLC, Austin

**NOON TO 1:00 PM**

**Lunch**

**1:00 PM TO 2:00 PM**

**Guardianship Law, Part 1: Investigation & Creation**

The Hon. Jerry Simoneaux, Harris County Probate Court No. 1

**2:00 PM TO 3:00 PM**

**The Role of the Ad Litem**

The Hon. Jason Cox, Harris County Probate Court No. 3

**3:00 PM TO 3:05 PM**

**Stretch Break**

**3:05 PM TO 4:35 PM**

**Mental Health Law**

The Hon. Guy Herman, Travis County Probate Court No. 1  
Deborah Mendez, Dir. of the Probate Division, Travis County Clerk's Office

**4:35 PM TO 5:05 PM**

**Judge and Clerk Q&A – ask us anything!**

Catherine L. Horvath, Retired Chief Deputy Clerk  
The Hon. Guy Herman, Travis County Probate Court No.1

**5:15 PM to 6:30 PM**

**Welcome Reception** with beverages and light appetizers

*Thank you to our breakfast sponsor!*



**Friday, March 15, 2024**

*Thank you to our breakfast sponsor!*



<b>7:30 AM TO 8:00 AM</b>	<b>Breakfast in Meeting Room</b>
<b>8:00 AM TO 9:00 AM</b>	<b>Guardianship Law, Part 2: Nuts &amp; Bolts of Judicial Administration</b> The Hon. Claudia Laird, Montgomery County Probate Court No. 1
<b>9:00 AM TO 10:00 AM</b>	<b>Bonds, Inventories, and Accountings</b> The Hon. Steve King, Senior Judge - Tarrant County
<b>10:00 AM TO 10:15 AM</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>10:15 AM TO 11:15 AM</b>	<b>Compliance &amp; Show Cause</b> Howard M. Reiner, Howard M. Reiner & Associates, Houston & Irving
<b>11:15 AM TO 12:00 PM</b>	<b>Attorneys' Fees</b> The Hon. Guy Herman, Travis County Probate Court No. 1
<b>12:00 PM TO 1:00 PM</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>1:00 PM TO 3:00 PM</b>	<b>It's a Team Effort: The Intersection between the Role of the Judge and the Role of the Clerk</b> Catherine L. Horvath, Retired Chief Deputy Clerk The Hon. Guy Herman, Travis County Probate Court No. 1

**Wednesday add-on session from 4:00-6:00 PM**

**Breakout Session for Clerks**

In this add-on session, Cathy Horvath and Deborah Mendez will go into more detail about 2023 legislative changes with a focus on how it will have an impact on clerks who work with guardianship, probate, mental health, and trust cases.

**Breakout Session for Judges and Court Staff**

Austin attorney Craig Hopper will go into detail about 2023 legislative changes that will have an impact on judges and court staff who work with guardianship, probate, mental health, and trust cases. Fellow Austin attorney Clint Alexander will also present on what happens when an active attorney dies and the Court's role in facilitating how to close that attorney's practice.