

# LDAA 47TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

MIRAMAR, FLORIDA

JUNE 23-27, 2025



## Continuing Legal Education

This Seminar presumptively qualifies for a MAXIMUM of 13.25 continuing legal education credits. This is subject to change. Includes: Ethics | Professionalism

### Hospitality Suite Hours of Operation

Monday, June 23	2:00-7:00 PM
Tuesday, June 24	8:00-10:00 AM
Wednesday, June 25	8:00-10:00 AM
Thursday, June 26	8:00-11:00 AM
Friday, June 27	8:00-10:00 AM

### Registration Desk Hours of Operation

Monday, June 23	1:00-7:00 PM
Tuesday, June 24	8:00-5:00 PM
Wednesday, June 25	8:00-1:00 PM
Thursday, June 26	11:00-5:00 PM
Friday, June 27	7:00-12:00 Noon

### DARS Mobile Office Hours of Operation

Tuesday, June 24	8:00-5:00 PM
Wednesday, June 25	8:00-1:00 PM
Thursday, June 26	11:00-5:00 PM

## Registration Information

Before Friday, May 30, 2025	On or After Friday, May 30, 2025	On or After Monday, June 16, 2025
\$325	\$425	\$525

The registration fee includes all training sessions, handouts and coffee breaks for the registrant, and planned social functions for the registrant and spouse/guest. Accommodations, travel expenses, and incidentals are the responsibility of the registrant. Payment may be made at a later date, **but in all instances prior to the Conference.**

**Refund policy:** If the LDAA office is notified by Monday, June 9, 2025, in writing or by telephone, a full refund will be made. After this cutoff date, there will be no refunds. Please note that NO SHOWS will be fully billed.

## Accommodations

Location	<b>Sandestin Resort</b> 9300 Emerald Coast Parkway West Miramar Beach, FL 32550
Reservation Code	<b>24V2Z4</b>
Contact	<b>Sandestin Group Reservations:</b> 1-800-320-8115
Book Online	<a href="https://www.sandestin.com/24V2Z4">https://www.sandestin.com/24V2Z4</a>

The Association has obtained special accommodation rates for attendees at the Conference site, the Sandestin Resort, located at 9300 Emerald Coast Parkway West in Miramar Beach, Florida. Early booking is recommended.

**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER TODAY!](#)**

## Agenda (Outline, subject to change)

### Day 1: Monday, June 23 (Travel Day)

Time	Session/Event Title
2:00-7:00 PM	LDAA Hospitality Suite Open
1:00-7:00 PM	LDAA Registration Desk Open
4:00-5:30 PM	LDAA Board of Directors Meeting
7:30 PM	LDAA Board of Directors and Past Presidents' Dinner (Present LDAA Board of Directors and Past LDAA Presidents Only)
Evening Free	

### Day 2: Tuesday, June 24

Time	Session/Event Title
8:00-10:00 AM	LDAA Hospitality Suite Open
8:00-5:00 PM	LDAA Registration Desk Open
8:00-5:00 PM	DARS Mobile Office Open
9:00-9:45 AM	<b>WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND INTRODUCTION OF EXHIBITORS</b> <i>The Honorable Kristine M. Russell, LDAA President District Attorney, 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, Lafourche Parish, LA</i> <i>Mr. Zachary T. Daniels, Executive Director Louisiana District Attorneys Association, Baton Rouge, LA</i> <i>Ms. W. Claire Howington, ADA Section President Assistant District Attorney, 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, New Iberia, LA</i>
9:45-10:45 AM	<b>Session 1</b> <b>1.00 CLE CREDIT</b> <b>General Session</b> <b>Magnolia Ballroom A-C</b> <b>HIGH PROFILE PROSECUTION CASES</b> This session will focus on the complexities and challenges of managing high-profile prosecution cases where public interest, media scrutiny, and the pressure for a successful outcome are heightened. We will explore strategies for maintaining objectivity, managing media relations, and ensuring legal integrity throughout the trial process. Additionally, we will discuss the importance of teamwork, preparing witnesses, and leveraging resources to build a compelling case, while balancing the ethical obligations of the prosecution in the public eye.  Join us as we delve into best practices for handling high-profile cases with professionalism and efficiency, ensuring justice is served while navigating the intricate dynamics of public perception and legal scrutiny.

*The Honorable George H. Brauchler, District Attorney  
District Attorney's Office, 23<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District, Castle Rock, CO.*

10:45-11:00 AM	BREAK	
11:00-12:30 PM	Session 2	1.50 CLE CREDITS
	General Session	Magnolia Ballroom A-C
	<b>SUFFER FROM BURNOUT, GIVE'EM THE F.I.N.G.E.R.!</b> Burnout affects millions of Americans each year and has been called "the disease of our civilization." The unhappiness and detachment burnout causes can threaten your job, your relationship, and your health. But there's good news—burnout can be healed. Join us as a former 20-year elected District Attorney explains his personal experience and learned how to successfully overcome it and went from "Burnout" to "On Fire!" <i>Mr. Mark Yarbrough, Motivational Speaker Amherst, TX</i>	
12:30-2:15 PM	LUNCH	On Your Own
2:15-3:30 PM	Session 3	1.25 CLE CREDITS
	General Session	Magnolia Ballroom A-C
	<b>PRIVATELY MADE FIREARMS/MACHINE GUN CONVERSION DEVICES</b> Join us for a lively discussion about current trends, legal concepts, case examples and investigative techniques. You will leave with a better understanding of firearms definition, Federal Laws, applicable State Laws, and how to identify which items constitute privately made firearms (PMF) and machinegun conversion devices (MCD). <i>Mr. Vincent N. Liberto, III, Special Agent, ATF New Orleans Group II - HIDTA Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, New Orleans, LA Ms. Kristin Pyle, Special Agent, ATF New Orleans Group II - HIDTA, New Orleans, LA Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, New Orleans, LA</i>	
3:30-3:45 PM	BREAK	
3:45-5:00 PM	Session 4	1.25 CLE CREDITS
	General Session	Magnolia Ballroom A-C
	<b>LEGISLATIVE UPDATE</b> Join us for a discussion about the Legislative Action for 2025 and what is on the horizon for prosecutors.	

*Mr. Zachary T. Daniels, Executive Director  
Louisiana District Attorneys Association, Baton Rouge, LA  
Ms. H. Claire Howington, ADA Section President  
Assistant District Attorney, 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, New Iberia, LA*

**4:00-5:00 PM**

**User Group Session**

**Karpel Solutions**

Join us for a lively discussion to see the latest features of PROSECUTORbyKarpel.

*Mr. Jeff Karpel, CEO/Software Architect  
Karpel Solutions, St. Louis, MO*

**5:00-7:00 PM**

**Social Function**

**Day 3: Wednesday, June 25**

Time	Session/Event Title
8:00-10:00 AM	LDAA Hospitality Suite Open
8:00-1:00 PM	LDAA Registration Desk Open
8:00-1:00 PM	DARS Mobile Office Open

**9:00-10:30 AM**

**Session 5**

**1.50 CLE CREDITS**

**General Session**

**Magnolia Ballroom A-C**

**SEX CRIMES VOIR DIRE AND CHILD VICTIMS**

Voir Dire and Trial Strategy sex cases involving child victims – This Continuing Legal Education session will focus on trial strategy and Voir dire sex cases involving child victims. Designed for seasoned and newer prosecutors alike, this presentation will explore effective methods for selecting a fair and impartial jury, overcoming common defense tactics, and presenting a compelling narrative that centers on the protection of vulnerable victims.

*Mr. Ron Christopher Stamps, Section Chief – SVU  
Assistant District Attorney, 1<sup>st</sup> Judicial District, Shreveport, LA*

**Breakout 1 – Victims Track**

**OUR BRAINS ON VICARIOUS TRAUMA/BURNOUT/STRESS: WHY WE CAN'T HIDE FROM OUR JOBS**

Much of what we feel emotionally and physically can be linked to physiological responses over which we initially have no control. In this session, we will discuss our brain's reaction to trauma and stress and the effects on those whose professions continuously expose them to trauma and stress. We will discuss what those effects are and simple ways to work with our brain chemistry to bring ourselves back into balance.

*Ms. Megan C. Zwisohn, Chief Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney*

### Breakout 2 – Highway Safety Track

#### **MASTERING MASKING: LEGAL AND ETHICAL CONSEQUENCES OF PLEA NEGOTIATIONS INVOLVING CDLS**

Federal law prohibits the “Masking” of convictions. Misconceptions continue to persist surrounding this statute’s mandate requiring the accurate reporting of violations and convictions involving CDLS, which in turn limits discretion in handling these cases. Attendees of this course learn to appreciate how the enforcement of this and other regulations combine to reduce injury and death by keeping unsafe commercial driver’s license (CDL) holders off the roads and ensuring that each driver has one driver’s license and one complete driver’s record.

*Mr. Jim Camp, Senior Attorney  
National Traffic Law Center; NDAA  
Ms. Jill Bennett, Staff Attorney  
National Traffic Law Center; NDAA*

10:30-10:45 AM

**BREAK**

10:45-12:00 PM

**Session 6**

**1.25 CLE CREDITS**

**General Session**

**Magnolia Ballroom A-C**

#### **RECENT DECISIONS**

The courts are working hard! Join us to learn how recent cases will affect your prosecutions.

*The Honorable Associate Justice Jay B. McCallum  
Louisiana Supreme Court, New Orleans, LA  
Mrs. Deanna Dunham McCallum, Assistant District Attorney  
Child Support, Drug Court, 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District, Ruston, LA*

### Breakout 1 – Human Trafficking Victims Track

#### **HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND THE IMPACT ON COMMERCIAL DRIVER’S LICENSES**

Commercial Driver License (CDL) holders have the privilege of operating 80,000-pound vehicles, and with that privilege comes greater training, licensing expectations, and responsibility. This presentation will analyze the rules and regulations regarding CMV operators/CDL holders and severe forms of human trafficking. This session will educate attendees about the Federal “No Human Trafficking on Our Roads” (NHTRA) which was signed into law on January 1, 2018. The mandatory lifetime disqualification without the possibility of reinstatement applies to those who engage in the use of a commercial vehicle for sex or labor trafficking.

Ms. Bella Truong, Senior Attorney  
National Traffic Law Center – NDAA; Arlington, VA

## Breakout 2 – Highway Safety Track

### UNIQUE APPROACHES TO DWIS

DWIs are unique crimes that require unique solutions. Hear from different districts on their approach to handling misdemeanor and felony cases and how the intersection of mental health and substance abuse can impact how you approach defendants.

*Heidi Irwin, Social Worker*

*17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District; Thibodaux, LA*

*Jessica Raines, Assistant District Attorney, Deputy Chief Parish Courts*

*24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District; Gretna, LA*

*David Wheeler, Assistant District Attorney*

*24<sup>th</sup> Judicial District; Gretna, LA*

12:00-1:00 PM

ADA Section Business Luncheon Meeting

Afternoon and Evening Free

## Day 4: Thursday, June 26

Time	Session/Event Title
8:00-11:00 PM	LDAA Hospitality Suite Open
11:00-5:00 PM	LDAA Registration Desk Open
11:00-5:00 PM	DARS Mobile Office Open
11:45-12:45 PM	LDAA Prayer Brunch
1:00-2:15 PM	Session 7
	1.25 CLE CREDITS

### General Session

Magnolia Ballroom A-C

### APPEALS AND POST CONVICTION

Join us for a discussion on two crucial tools that help protect the rights of individuals who have been convicted of crimes. While both serve to challenge convictions or sentences, they differ in their timing, focus, and the process involved. Let's break down these two mechanisms and their role in the legal system.

*Ms. H. Claire Howington, ADA Section President*

*Assistant District Attorney, 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, New Iberia, LA*

*Ms. Jerri Lee, Assistant District Attorney*

*19<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, Baton Rouge, LA*

### Breakout 1 – Human Trafficking Victims Track

#### **FAMILIAL CHILD TRAFFICKING: HOW TO IDENTIFY & RESPOND**

This session will provide an overview of familial trafficking and how to appropriately identify and respond to individuals who are at risk, currently experiencing, or have experienced trafficking by a family member.

*Ms. Monica Taylor, Director of Human Trafficking Prevention  
Governor's Office of Human Trafficking Prevention; Baton Rouge, LA*

*Ms. Mary Kate Andrepont, Deputy Director of Human Trafficking Prevention*

*Governor's Office of Human Trafficking Prevention; Baton Rouge, LA*

### Breakout 2 – Highway Safety Track

#### **SFST – PART I**

This two part course will take attendees with up-close and personal into standardized field sobriety tests. Attendees will gain insight into how and why SFSTs work and how wet labs are conducted. This session will have a feature a number of participants who will begin dosing for Part II.

*Sergeant Randy Lanoux, Enforcement Division  
Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries; Baton Rouge, LA*

*Sergeant Michael Hebert, Enforcement Division  
Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries; Lake Charles, LA*

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**2:15-2:30 PM**

**BREAK**

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**2:30-3:45 PM**

**Session 8**

**1.25 CLE CREDITS**

**General Session**

**Magnolia Ballroom A-C**

#### **RICO – STREET GANG PROSECUTION**

This session will explore the unique challenges and strategies involved in prosecuting street gang-related crimes. We will cover the importance of understanding gang dynamics, the legal tools available for prosecuting organized criminal activity, and the role of intelligence gathering in building strong cases. Participants will learn about the key legal considerations, including gang enhancement statutes, and how to effectively collaborate with law enforcement, experts, and community organizations. We will also discuss strategies for addressing issues such as witness intimidation and the complexities of prosecuting violent and organized crime, all while ensuring justice and public safety.

*Mr. Alexander Calenda, III, Assistant Attorney General  
Louisiana Department of Justice, Baton Rouge, LA*

## Breakout 1 – Victims Track

### VICTIM NOTIFICATION AND AN OVERVIEW ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATORS

This session will provide an overview on victim notification options and what the Department of Public Safety and Corrections is doing to ensure victims are notified in regard to projected release dates, sentencing, and hearings before the Board of Pardons or Committee on Parole. We will also discuss what Victims Assistance Coordinators do (and don't do) for victims.

*Mrs. Leone Fitzgerald, President of the LDAA Victims Assistance Coordinators Board*

*Director, Victim Assistance Program, 1<sup>st</sup> Judicial District, Shreveport, LA*

## Breakout 2 – Special Topics

### THINGS ARE NOT ALWAYS AS THEY SEEM- RECOGNIZING AND OVERCOMING COGNITIVE BIAS

All human beings view the world through different lenses, and prosecutors are no exception. Join us for a discussion on how to recognize and overcome cognitive bias in both ourselves and others, eliminate blind spots, and achieve our ultimate goal of justice.

*Mr. Stephen B. Street, Jr., Louisiana Inspector General*

*Office of State Inspector General, Baton Rouge, LA*

3:45-4:00 PM

BREAK

4:00-5:00 PM

Session 9

1.00 CLE CREDIT

General Session

Magnolia Ballroom A-C

### CHILD ABUSE SEX CASES

This session will provide an overview of current trends, legal frameworks, and challenges related to child sexual abuse cases. Topics include identifying abuse, investigative procedures, victim support strategies, and inter-agency collaboration. The discussion aims to strengthen our collective responses and ensure trauma-informed, victim-centered approaches in all stages of handling such cases.

*Mr. Christopher Walters, Deputy Executive Counsel  
Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Policy; Baton Rouge*

*Ms. Monica Taylor, Director of Human Trafficking Prevention  
Governor's Office of Human Trafficking Prevention; Baton Rouge, LA*

## Breakout 1 – Highway Safety

## SFST – PART II

This session will build on the background knowledge from Part I and take attendees through the SFST process. It will provide live demonstrations of SFSTs on the dosed participants from the wet lab.

*Sergeant Randy Lanoux, Enforcement Division*

*Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries; Baton Rouge, LA*

*Sergeant Michael Hebert, Enforcement Division*

*Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries; Lake Charles, LA*

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5:00-7:00 PM

Social Function

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EVENING FREE

### Day 5: Friday, June 27

Time	Session/Event Title
8:00-10:00 AM	LDAA Hospitality Suite Open
7:00-12:00 PM	LDAA Registration Desk Open
8:00-9:00 AM	<b>LDAA GENERAL BUSINESS BREAKFAST MEETING</b> (All conference registrants are invited to attend)
9:00-9:15 AM	<b>BREAK</b>
9:15-10:15 AM	<b>Session 10</b> <b>1.00 CLE CREDIT</b>
	<b>General Session</b> <b>Magnolia Ballroom A-C</b>
	<b>ETHICS – LIVING IN A MATERIAL WORLD</b> This course will review the seminal holdings along with the factual context of the cases that have historically defined a defendant's rights under Brady. Additionally, it will examine Rule 3.8 of the Louisiana Rules of Professional Conduct, and how the Court has defined the scope of that rule vis a vis Brady obligations. Finally, we will examine the multiple decisions of the LASC in the recent case of <i>Robinson v. Vannoy</i> , and how these decisions could redefine the scope of Brady in Louisiana criminal proceedings. <i>Honorable Scott Crichton, Associate Justice (Retired)</i> <i>Louisiana Supreme Court, Shreveport, LA</i> <i>Mr. Christopher S. Bowman, Assistant District Attorney</i> <i>1<sup>st</sup> Judicial District, Shreveport, LA</i> <i>Mr. Hugo Holland, Assistant District Attorney</i> <i>26<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, Benton, LA</i>
10:15-10:30 AM	<b>BREAK</b>
10:30-11:30 AM	<b>Session 11</b> <b>1.00 CLE CREDIT</b>
	<b>General Session</b> <b>Magnolia Ballroom A-C</b>

### **PROFESSIONALISM – PANEL DISCUSSION**

Being a prosecutor remains a noble thing – one of the noblest, in fact. But, with public trust in government institutions at an all-time low, the environment for prosecutors has never been more challenging. How do we ensure that our profession remains above reproach? Join us for a candid discussion about the issues modern day prosecutors are facing, and what we can do to achieve justice with integrity.

*The Honorable Jennifer F. Richard, Judge, Division B  
17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court, Thibodaux LA*

*The Honorable Kristine M. Russell, District Attorney  
Lafourche Parish, Thibodaux, LA*

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**Adjourn and Depart – SAFE TRAVELS!!!**