

Approaching the Bench

A Judicial Summit on Family Violence

May 14, 2010

Dear Judge:

As a respected leader in your community, we cordially invite you to participate in ***Approaching the Bench***, a state-wide Judicial Summit, hosted by the Texas Council on Family Violence and funded by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

From **June 6 – 8, 2010, judicial leaders from all over Texas will convene in Austin, Texas at the Lakeway Resort and Spa**. The Summit seeks the creation and fostering of dialogue with and among our state's judiciary to forge strategies for the future of family violence response in Texas. Moreover, the Summit will help attendees propel criminal and civil justice system, legislative, administrative and cultural approaches across the state. This invitation-only, state-wide summit comes in response to requests for an opportunity to share judicial efforts in the area of family violence. *Approaching the Bench* will provide judges a forum to discuss issues arising in family violence cases, emerging Texas and national trends and successes in the Texas response. To complement the important dialogue, colleagues and leaders in the field will offer additional information on promising practices and strategies relevant to both civil and criminal law practice in the courtroom and beyond. All Summit activities will be eligible for continuing legal education.

Your leadership, expertise, and unique perspective will greatly contribute to the dialogue; accordingly, we would be honored to have you participate. Please know that minimal advance preparation is required. If you can participate, please fax, or mail the enclosed reply form or contact the Summit Coordinator, Kate McAlister (ph. 800-525-1978 or kmcalister@tcfv.org). **Through generous funding from the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, the Council will cover lodging for two nights, a reception Sunday night, and breakfast and lunches Monday and Tuesday. The council will also cover transportation costs, including airfare, taxi service and parking, up to \$220.**

The Summit will signal key next steps in Texas systems responding to domestic violence. The Summit also affords the unique opportunity to coalesce those present in making a dramatic difference in the lives of families across our state. We look forward to your participation and appreciate your response by Monday, May 17.

Respectfully,



Gloria Aguilera Terry
President, Texas Council on Family Violence

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Registration Form

| | |
|--|--|
| Name _____ | Business Mailing Address Street or P.O. Box _____ City- _____ TX Zip Code _____ |
| Telephone Number _____ | |
| Fax Number _____ | |
| E-Mail Address _____ | |
| Name and Number of an Alternate Contact (such as an assistant or person who schedules your calendar) _____ | |

Over What Type of Court Do You Preside? District County Family

Court Number: _____

Counties Served: _____

Which Types of Cases Do You Hear? Civil Criminal Both

Which Track Do You Plan to Attend Monday Afternoon? Civil Criminal

Type of Sleeping Room Requested: 2 Queen Beds 1 King Bed

I will not need a room

UPON RECEIPT OF THIS FORM, WE WILL RESERVE YOUR ROOM FOR JUNE 6 AND JUNE 7. YOU DO NOT NEED TO MAKE A RESERVATION ON YOUR OWN FOR THESE TWO NIGHTS. IF YOU WILL BE STAYING ADDITIONAL NIGHTS, YOU WILL NEED TO RESERVE ROOMS FOR THOSE NIGHTS WITH LAKEWAY AND CHECK IN AND OUT SEPARATELY. ANY NIGHTS YOU STAY IN ADDITION TO JUNE 6 AND JUNE 7 ARE AT YOUR OWN EXPENSE AT THE REGULAR RESORT RATE.

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Any Special Accommodations Needed: _____

Any Special Dietary Needs (a vegetarian option is always available): _____

Issues You Hope to See Addressed at the Summit (use an additional sheet if needed):

*If you are an elected official, reimbursement for your expenses associated with this conference is provided in accordance with the requirements of Government Code Chapters 56 and 74 and pursuant to rules adopted by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

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Sunday June 6 - Tuesday 8, 2010 Lakeway Resort and Spa, Austin, Texas

Sunday, June 6, 2010

5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Pre-Docket Call (Pre-Registration)

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Step Into the Well (Networking Reception - heavy hors d'oeuvre's and cash bar)

6:30 PM – 6:45 PM

Welcome to the Resort

Monday June 7, 2010

7:00 AM – 8:30 AM

Docket Call (Registration)

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

Breakfast provided

8:30 AM - 8:40 AM

Opening Statements (Welcome and Opening Remarks)

8:40 AM – 9:15 AM

National Keynote

9:15 AM – 10:00 AM

Judges Panel: Challenges and Opportunities in Working with Cases Involving Family Violence

- Information
- Facilitated discussion for attendees

10:00 AM – 10:15 AM

Adjournment (Break)

10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

Roundtable Discussion I: How Family Violence Presents in the Courtroom

- Information
- Additional facilitated discussion for attendees

11:45 AM – 12:00 PM

Adjournment (Break)

12:00 PM – 1:15 PM

Sustained and Enacted: A Dialogue About New Family Violence Legislation and Practical Implementation

1:15 PM - 1:30 PM

Adjournment (Break)

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

*Civil and Criminal Law Tracks (Run Concurrently)
National Best Practices in Family Violence Civil Law: Texas Application*

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- Utilizing expert witnesses, social study evaluators, parenting facilitators and parenting coordinators
- Interstate custody and UCCJEA issues

National Best Practices Family Violence Criminal Law: Texas Application

- Utilizing expert witnesses
- Victimless prosecution issues, including *Crawford*, recantation, and barriers to testifying
- Firearms and family violence offenders

3:00 PM – 3:15 PM

Adjournment (Break)

3:15 PM – 4:45 PM

Roundtable II: Due Process and Access to Justice

4:45 PM – 5:00 PM

Day One Wrap-Up

Dinner on Your Own

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

Breakfast

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM

Welcome

8:45 AM – 9:00 AM

The 82nd Cometh: Trends for the Next Legislative Session

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Roundtable III: Ethics in Maximizing Victim Safety

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM

Adjournment (Break)

10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

Roundtable IV: Magistrates Orders for Emergency Protection and Protective Orders

12:15 PM – 12:30 PM

Adjournment (Break)

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM

Luncheon Plenary:

From Conversation to the Courtroom: Implementing Summit Findings in Your Jurisdiction

And Honoring Supreme Court Justice Harriet O'Neil

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LAKEWAY RESORT AND SPA
101 Lakeway Drive, Austin, TX 78734. USA
Phone: 1.512.261.6600

With a commanding view of the Texas Hill Country from the shores of Lake Travis, Lakeway Resort and Spa captures the elegance of a world-class destination with contemporary resort amenities. Nestled in the heart of Texas, away from the hustle and bustle of downtown Austin's attractions – guests of Lakeway Resort and Spa are enjoying the rebirth of a legend. Offering dramatic views of the lake and picturesque rolling hills, the newly renovated resort and spa is the perfect haven for business and relaxation.



The hotel is located 18 miles northwest of downtown Austin and 40 minutes from the Austin Bergstrom International Airport. Nearby wineries, marine recreation, culture, tennis, nightlife and championship golf beckon. Perfectly manicured lawns, stunning décor and unparalleled guest services have made the Lakeway Resort and Spa an award-winning legend once again.

- 173 Deluxe Non Smoking Guestrooms, Suites, & Villas
- 24,000 square feet of IACC Approved Conference Space
- 17 Meeting and Conference Rooms 4 Ballrooms
 - Including a 5,200 Sq. Ft. Glass-Enclosed Ballroom
- Business Center and WiFi Internet Access
- Upscale Restaurant, Lounge, Sports Bar and Grill
- San Saba Spa
- Fitness Center, 3 Outdoor Pools, Whirlpools
- Seasonal Kids Program
- Lakeway Marina
- 4 Golf Courses Nearby
- The World of Tennis
- Texas Sailing Academy

