



Tennessee Defense Lawyers Association

NEWSLETTER

TDLA Annual Meeting and Leadership Conference



September 13-15, 2023 | Fall Creek Falls State Park | Spencer, TN
Register Today!



TDLA Leadership Conference

NEW THIS YEAR - Wednesday, September 13, 2023 - TDLA “Past, Present, Future” Leadership Retreat - Everyone is invited! Whether you are a current or past Board Member or Committee/Section Chair or are interested in becoming more involved in TDLA in the future, TDLA wants you! Join us at beautiful Fall Creek Falls State Park for our “Past, Present, Future” Leadership Conference and Retreat, where past, present, and future TDLA leadership will meet to brainstorm, share ideas, and conduct strategic planning for the future of our organization. We invite anyone who wishes to be involved in the Leadership Conference and Retreat, whether you have been active in TDLA in the past, are currently an active TDLA Board or Committee member, or wish to participate in TDLA in the future.

As part of this Leadership Conference, we will be launching our new Emerging Leaders Program, whereby young lawyers who participate in our organization can have the opportunity to learn and develop their leadership skills and be recognized for their participation in various TDLA activities. We will of course also be offering our usual 6 hours of CLE programming for regular members at the Annual Meeting, plus 3 hours of CLE programming for young lawyers in the annual Young Lawyers Boot Camp. We are also looking forward to spending some time outside together in the beautiful State Park, including a BBQ and Bluegrass Past Presidents Reception. We also have plans for a service project at the State Park. We hope you will join us for some or all of these activities.

Examples of topics to be discussed at the Leadership Conference and Retreat:

- Reviewing Sections and Committees
- Action Items and Ideas for Member Engagement
- Long Term Planning

TDLA Annual Meeting AGENDA

Wednesday September 13, 2023

12 PM - 1 PM: Leadership Lunch

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM: Leadership Conference and Retreat - all members invited!

4:00 PM: Exhibitor set up begins

5:30 PM – 9:00 PM: BBQ and Bluegrass in honor of our TDLA Past Presidents

Outdoor Pavilion #4, Fall Creek Falls State Park

Hospitality suite opens at 9pm

Thursday September 14, 2023

7:00 AM – 7:30 AM: TDLA For Life - Outdoor Nature Walk

8:00 AM – 8:20 AM: Breakfast and Visit with Exhibitors

8:20 AM - 8:30 AM: Welcome and Announcements

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM: **Business Valuation Forum: Considerations for Tennessee Litigators** - Elliott Davis

9:30 AM – 10:00 AM: Introduction of Sponsors and Break

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM: **Keys for Effective Mediations** – Warren McWhirter, Esq.

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM: **Bridging the Generational Gaps** – Steve Dix, Rachel Bishop and Mickala Lewis

12:00 PM – 12:40 PM: Lunch

12:40 PM – 2:00 PM: Free Time

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM: TDLA Cares - Service Project with TN State Park Ranger

6:00 PM: Reception

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM: Awards Dinner

Hospitality Suite opens at 9pm

Young Lawyers Luncheon and Boot Camp - Thursday afternoon

Thursday, September 14, 2023

12 PM – 12:45 PM: Lunch and Leadership Discussion –

12:45 PM – 1:45 PM: **Developing Skills and Relationships for Leadership** – Nathan Shelby and Jordan Gibson

1:45 PM – 2 PM: Break; Meet for Service Project

2 PM – 3 PM: TDLA Cares - Service Project with TN State Park Ranger

3 PM – 3:15 PM: Break; Return to Boot Camp

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM: **Preparing for Rule 30 Depos** – Chris Frulla

4:15 PM – 5:15 PM: **Taking Rule 30(b)(6) Depos** – Ken Ward

6:00 PM: Reception and Awards Dinner

Friday, September 15, 2023

7:00 AM – 7:30 AM: TDLA For Life - Outdoor Nature Walk

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM: Breakfast and Visit with Exhibitors

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM: **Down to the Bone: Anatomy for Lawyers** – TBA

9:30 AM – 10:00 AM: Introduction of Sponsors – Giveaways and Break/ Exhibitor Tear Down

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM: **What You Need to Know About Third Party Litigation Funding** – Michael Goodin, Esq.

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM: **Comparing Steno, Digital and AI in Court Reporting** – Tri Star Court Reporting

12:00 PM – 12:30 PM: TDLA Member Meeting and Conference Ends

*Agenda subject to change

TDLA Annual Meeting 2023

Hotel Information:

Room Block Deadline: Friday August 18, 2023

Room Rates: \$145/ night + tax

If you are reserving rooms outside of our blocked hotel dates (Sept 13-15) it may show up not available. Please call to reserve to check availability if outside our blocked room dates.

Steps to reserve rooms online:

1. Steps to reserve those rooms:

https://guestrez.megasysrms.com/NWD42/fall-creek-falls-state-park?_ga=2.165064447.1762820091.1644952889-1400142560.1594846516

2. Enter in preferred dates and then click on 'special rates.' Type in 1371 as the group code.
3. It will pull up what is available for you to reserve online.

Steps to reserve the rooms via telephone:

1. Please call our Call Center at (888) 678-2757 and give them group code 1371.
2. Or please call the Lodge Front Desk at (423) 881-5241 and give them group code 1371.

Registration Fees:

Regular Member: \$450 - [Register online here](#)

Non-Members: \$550

Young Lawyer Members: \$75 (Boot Camp Only); \$175 (Entire Conference) - Register on the Young Lawyer Conference page - [click here](#) to be redirected.

TDLA Emerging Leaders Program

TDLA President Hannah Lowe is excited to launch the Emerging Leaders program on September 13, 2023. **Emerging Leaders is a Leadership Development Program whereby lawyers in our organization can have the opportunity to learn and develop leadership skills and be recognized for their participation in various TDLA activities.** The program will launch at the TDLA Annual Meeting at Fall Creek Falls State Park in Spencer, TN on September 13-15, 2023. Anyone wishing to participate in the Emerging Leaders Program will be able to sign up using the link on the TDLA website. Each participant will receive a Progress Tracker, which will have space for each participant to mark when a task is complete.

The tasks are divided into two groups: Level 1 (more basic tasks), and Level 2 (more advanced tasks). When members complete 6/8 tasks in each level, they will be recognized as a TDLA Emerging Leader either Level 1 or Level 2 and receive recognition as a graduate of the TDLA Emerging Leaders Program at the TDLA Annual Meeting Awards Dinner, in the Newsletter and/or Journal, and on the TDLA website.

There will be no specific deadline for completion of the tasks on the list; however, if a member wishes to be recognized at the Annual Meeting, the Progress Tracker must be submitted (to office@tdla.net) by the end of the month before the annual meeting. Members who have already completed one or more task on the lists at the time of the Program Launch may mark the task complete with the completed date on the Progress Sheet.

Any members who have completed 6 of 8 tasks from either Level 1 or Level 2 by the time of the next TDLA Annual Meeting and submit their form by the end of the month before the meeting (TDLA's next annual meeting will be in October 2024) will be recognized as a graduate of the Emerging Leaders Program at the Annual Meeting. They will also receive recognition in the TDLA Newsletter and/or Journal, and on the TDLA website. We plan to dedicate at least one hour of the TDLA Young Lawyers Boot Camp at the Annual Meeting to leadership training as part of the Emerging Leaders Program.

TDLA is excited about identifying and working with our emerging leaders to help them to develop the leadership skills they need to thrive not just in our organization but in the legal profession generally.

Emerging Leaders Program Tracker - **PDF form:** [click here](#)

Emerging Leaders Program Tracker - **Online form:** [click here](#)



2023 TDLA Awards Nomination Form

The Tennessee Defense Lawyers Association wishes to recognize the talent and achievements of our members by presenting the following two annual awards at the Fall Meeting's Awards Dinner event. Nominations are now being accepted. The **Deadline for nominations is August 25, 2023**. To be eligible for the awards, nominees must be members in good standing of TDLA.

DEFENSE LAWYER OF THE YEAR

To honor a TDLA member who has made significant contributions to TDLA, to the defense bar, and/or to the practice of law in Tennessee this year.

RISING STAR AWARD

To honor a TDLA member who has been practicing law 10 years or less and who has made significant contributions to TDLA, to the defense bar, and/or who has promoted the interests of young lawyers in Tennessee this year.

Nominee for

____ **Defense Lawyer of the Year**

or

____ **Rising Star Award**

Nominee Name: _____

Firm/Co.: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ **Telephone:** _____

Nominated by: _____

Please explain the basis for the nomination (Feel free to attach additional sheets, as needed, including any additional materials you wish TDLA to consider):

Please submit completed nominations no later than August 25, 2023, by email to office@tdla.net (with subject line: Award Nominee) or by mail to TDLA, PO Box 282, Lookout Mountain, TN 37350. Please call Executive Director Mary Gadd (423-314-2285) with any questions.

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elliott davis

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