



Children's Commission.

Attorney Resource Letter:

For Attorneys Handling Child Protective Services Cases

September 1, 2017

Scholarships for the 2017 Texas CASA Conference

Registration for the 2017 Texas CASA Conference is now open. Texas CASA is offering a limited number of scholarships on a first come, first served basis to attorneys ad litem (AALs) and judges to attend the conference on October 19th - 21st in Galveston. This year's conference will feature topics such as trauma-informed care for children with intellectual or developmental disabilities, advocacy for aging-out youth, and identifying risk factors for sex trafficking, as well as innovative speakers and workshops on how to be an effective advocate for children in the Texas foster care system.

Scholarships from Texas CASA will reimburse AALs and judges for their travel, hotel and registration for the conference. If you are interested and can commit to attending, please e-mail Sarah Crockett at scrockett@texascasa.org by September 13th to secure your spot. It is Texas CASA's goal to work more collaboratively and intentionally with AALs and judges across the state, and this opportunity is an effort to strengthen that collaboration. For more information about the conference, please visit: <http://texascasaconference.org/>.

New Laws Effective September 1, 2017

Please read the full 85th Legislative Session Update [here](#) to ensure that you are familiar with the wide-ranging new laws related to CPS and child welfare law. This Update lists the legislative changes by bill number, by Code, and by statute.

2017 Legislative Update Now Available in the TexasBar CLE Online Classroom

Originally recorded on July 24, 2017, this program covers statutory changes emanating from the 85th Legislative Session which are relevant to all attorneys who practice child welfare law and to judges who hear CPS cases. Participants will learn about key changes brought about by Senate Bill 11's transition from foster care redesign to contractor-provided community based care. Legislative changes from House Bill 7 and Senate Bill 999 affecting Texas Family Code Chapters 262 and 263 are also discussed, along with Attorney and Guardian Ad Litem duties under Chapter 107 and other relevant bills. Please follow this link to register for this webinar, which offers 1.5 MCLE hours, including .25 hrs. ethics: <http://www.texasbarcle.com/CLE/AABuy0.asp?sProductType=EV&IID=16369>





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