JUDICIAL SUMMIT ON MENTAL HEALTH

EMBASSY SUITES
SAN MARCOS, TEXAS

JCMH
TEXAS JUDICIAL COMMISSION ON MENTAL HEALTH

NOVEMBER 5-6, 2026

9.75 Continuing Education (incl. .75 ethics) CLE, CEU, & TCOLE hours
**All rooms will be live streamed and recorded for future credit hours.*

SUMMIT AGENDA

Thursday, November 5, 2026	
6:00 – 8:30am	**Hotel Lobby Atrium** ***Breakfast Provided***
8:30 – 8:45am	**Welcome from the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals** • *Hon. Jesse F. McClure, III*, Judge, Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, JCMH Chair • *Hon. Gina Parker,* Judge, Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, JCMH Deputy Liaison • *Kristi Taylor, J.D.,* Executive Director, JCMH • Host: *Hon. John J. Specia, Jr.,* Jurist-in-Residence, JCMH
8:45 – 9:30am 45 mins	**Veramendi Ballroom** **Plenary Session** **Litigating Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity:** ***A Conversation with Trial Counsel for Andrea Yates*** • *Hon. Jesse F. McClure, III*, Judge, Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, JCMH Chair • *Wendell Odom, Jr., J.D.*, Partner, Odom, Davis & Hobson
9:30 – 9:45am	***Break***
9:45 – 10:30 am 45 mins	**Veramendi Ballroom** **Plenary Session** **Family Perspectives on Serious Mental Illness, Criminal Adjudication, and the NGRI Verdict** • *Adrienne Kennedy*, National Trainer, National Alliance on Mental Illness • *Leslie Ervin*, Mother and Advocate • *Dr. Maureen Burrows, M.D., M.P.H.*, Psychiatrist, Maureen Burrows M.D. M.P.H., PLLC

<table>
<tr><td>10:30 – 10:45am</td><td colspan="3">Break</td></tr>
<tr><td>10:45 – 11:30am
45 mins</td><td colspan="3">Veramendi Ballroom
Plenary Session
A Multidisciplinary Approach to Behavioral Threat Assessments
• Jeffrey Murray, M.A., C.P.P., Domestic Security Strategist, United States Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center</td></tr>
<tr><td>11:30 – 12:15pm</td><td colspan="3">Lunch Provided</td></tr>
<tr><td>12:15 – 1:00pm
45 mins</td><td colspan="3">Veramendi Ballroom
Lunchtime Plenary Session
A Different Way of Thinking: Neurodivergence in the Practice of Law
• Angelica Cogliano, J.D., Partner, CMK Defense, PLLC</td></tr>
<tr><td>1:00 – 1:15pm</td><td colspan="3">Break</td></tr>
<tr><td>BREAKOUT TRACKS</td><td>Fundamentals</td><td>Specialty Courts</td><td>Youth Specific</td></tr>
<tr><td>LOCATION:
HOST:</td><td>Veramendi Salon F
Hon. Tyra Jones McCollum, Judge, Fort Bend County Court at Law No. 2</td><td>Veramendi Ballroom
Lee Pierson, J.D., Deputy Chief, Vickie Rice Mental Health Division, Dallas County Public Defender’s Office</td><td>Veramendi Salons G-J
Uche Chibueze, Psy.D., A.B.P.P., Assistant Director of Health Services, Harris County Juvenile Probation</td></tr>
<tr><td>1:15 – 2:00pm
45 mins</td><td>Local Leadership, Lasting Change: Advancing SIM Priorities Through the Behavioral Health Leadership Team
• Hon. Larry Phillips, 59th District Court Judge, Grayson County
• Lynda Frost, J.D., Ph.D., Principal Consultant, Lynfro Consulting
• Douglas Smith, M.S.S.W., Managing Partner, D-Degree Consulting</td><td>Ethical & Public Safety Considerations for Specialty Court Judges
Ethics Credit
• Hon. Stuti Trehan Patel, District Court Associate Judge, Fort Bend County</td><td>The Texas Juvenile Justice Continuum of Care Initiative
• Matthew Smith, L.P.C.-Supervisor, Director of Statewide Youth Services Continuum, Texas Juvenile Justice Department
• Layla Fry, M.S.C.J., Vice President of Youth Justice & Family Policy, Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute</td></tr>
</table>

2:00 – 2:15pm	***Break***		
2:15 – 3:00pm 45 mins	**IDD Law & Guardianship** • *Hon. Dave Jahn*, Denton County Probate Court Judge • *Beth Mitchell, J.D.*, Litigation Coordinator and Lead Counsel, Institutional Rights and Civil Liberties Team, Disability Rights Texas	**Williamson County's Transformative Justice Diversion Program** • District Judge: *Hon. Stacey Mathews* • Prosecutors: District Attorney, *Shawn Dick, J.D.* & Assistant District Attorney, *Steve Hesse, J.D.* • Attorneys: *Jo Poenitzsch, J.D.*, & *JR Hancock, J.D.* • Clinical Director: *Dean Eddy, M.A., L.P.C.-S., L.S.O.T.P.-S.* • Case Managers: *Marc Ruiz* & *Jordan Britt, M.S., N.C.C., L.P.C.-A.* • Research Scientists: *Emily Naiser, Ph.D.* & *Georges Naufal, Ph.D.*, Public Policy Research Institute	**Multisystemic Therapy for Youth with Intellectual Disabilities** • *Laurie Spivey, M.M.F.T., M.A.Ed.*, Manager of Clinical Implementation, MST Services
3:00 – 3:15pm	***Break***		

3:15 – 4:00pm 45 mins	**CCP Chapters 46B and 46C: *Understanding Competency Restoration and NGRI in Texas*** • *Hon. Jennifer Dillingham*, 81st District Court Judge, Atascosa County • *Dr. Maureen Burrows, M.D., M.P.H.*, Maureen Burrows M.D. M.P.H., PLLC	**Development of Denton County's AOT Court** • *Hon. Edward Nolter*, Associate Judge, Denton County Probate Court • *Melissa Hsi, L.P.C.*, AOT Program Manager, Denton County MHMR	**Brain, Behavior, and Trauma: *Advancing Care for Incarcerated Youth*** • *Scott LePor, D.O.*, Medical Director, Texas Juvenile Justice Department • *Evan Norton, Psy.D.*, Deputy Executive Director, Texas Juvenile Justice Department
4:00 – 4:15pm	***Break***		
4:15 – 5:00pm 45 mins	**Justice Involved Veterans** • *Linda Anderson, M.A., L.P.C.*, Justice-Involved Veterans Program Manager, Texas Veterans Commission • *Nadia Castilla, M.A., L.P.C.*, Justice-Involved Veterans Program Manager, Texas Veterans Commission	**Specialty Courts: *What is Working in Texas*** • *Georges Naufal, Ph.D.*, Public Policy Research Institute, Texas A&M University • *Emily Naiser, Ph.D.*, Public Policy Research Institute, Texas A&M University	**Early Support, Stronger Futures: *Trauma-Informed Prevention to Reduce Child Welfare and Justice Involvement*** • *Becky Haas*, Chief Executive Officer, Becky Haas Consulting
5:00 – 6:00pm	**Hotel Lobby – Rocky River Grille Lounge** **Networking Hour**		

Friday, November 6, 2026	
6:00 – 8:00am	**Hotel Lobby Atrium** ***Breakfast Provided***
8:00am – 8:10am	**Welcome from The Supreme Court of Texas** • *Hon. Jane Bland*, Justice, The Supreme Court of Texas, JCMH Chair • *Hon. Rebeca Huddle*, Justice, The Supreme Court of Texas, JCMH Deputy Liaison • Host: *Hon. Brent Carr*, Federal Immigration Judge, Adelanto Immigration Court
8:10 – 8:55am 45 mins	**Veramendi Ballroom** **Plenary Session** **Family Feedback for Systemwide Improvements** • *Jerri Clark*, Senior Advocacy and Communications Manager, Treatment Advocacy Center • *Kathy Pittman*, Family Member
8:55 – 9:40am 45 mins	**Veramendi Ballroom** **Plenary Session** **Bridging Models: *Translating Treatment Court Standards to Mental Health Courts*** • *Aaron Arnold, J.D.*, Chief Development Officer, All Rise
9:40 – 9:50am	***Break***

Friday, November 6, 2026, cont.			
BREAKOUT TRACKS	**Advanced Discussions**	**Supportive Programming**	**Rural Specific**
LOCATION:	**Veramendi Salon F**	**Veramendi Ballroom**	**Veramendi Salons G-J**
HOST:	*Hon. Oscar Kazen,* Judge, Probate Court No. 1, Bexar County	*Eric Smith, M.S., M.S.W.*, Founder, Eric W. T. Smith Consulting, LLC	*Hon. Roxanne Nelson,* Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1, Burnet County
9:50 – 10:35am 45 mins	**Understanding Crisis Responses** • *Christine Dalton, L.M.S.W.*, Mental Health Civilian Responder, Kyle Police Department • *Shawn Edwards*, President, Texas CIT Association; Executive Director, Burleson Health Resource Center; Captain, Lavaca County Sheriff's Office • *Genesis Villagomez, L.M.S.W.*, Mobile Crisis Care Coordinator, Kyle Police Department	**Bridging a Gap in Texas's Housing System for People Experiencing Mental Illness and Justice System Involvement** • *Hon. Brent Carr*, Federal Immigration Judge, Adelanto Immigration Court • *Hon. Alyse Ferguson*, Associate Judge, Collin County Probate Courts; President, Bralle Home; Of Counsel, Texas Defense Firm	**Benefits of a General Jurisdiction Court** • *Hon. Elaine Brown*, Hays County Court at Law No. 3 Judge • *Kaimi Mattila*, *L.C.S.W.-Supervisor*, Court Administrator, Hays County Mental Health Court • *Jennifer Putman, Ph.D.*, Court Administrator, Hays County AOT Court
10:35 – 10:45am	***Break***		
10:45 – 11:30am 45 mins	**Advanced Emergency Detention Topics** • *Mike Maples, L.P.C., L.M.F.T.,* CEO, Bluebonnet Trails Community Services • *Scott Rubin, M.P.A., P.L.C., L.C.C.*, Assistant Executive Director, Texas Police Chiefs Association	**We Are the Table: *How Peer Support Uses Lived-Experience to Transform Outcomes*** • *Chelsea Biggerstaff, R.S.P.S., P.S.S.*, Peer Services Program Director, Lifeworks Austin • *Shannon Carr, P.S.S., M.H.P.S.*, Executive	**Building the Rural Defense Bar: *Strategies to Expand Access to Counsel*** • *Hon. Ben Zeller*, Victoria County Judge • *Bill Cox, J.D.*, Director of Public Defense Improvement, Texas Indigent Defense Commission

	• *Prof. Brian D. Shannon, J.D.,* Horn Distinguished Professor, Texas Tech University School of Law • *Stephen Wohleb, J.D.*, Senior Vice President/General Counsel, Texas Hospital Association	Director, Austin Mental Health Community • *David Johnson*, Executive Director, The Heal US Project • *Cynthia Simons, J.I.-R.P.S.*, Planning Manager, Travis County, Reentry Resources	• *Jason Howell, J.D.*, Chief Public Defender, Panhandle Area Public Defender Office • *Karli Kennell, J.D.*, Chief Public Defender, Hill Country Regional Public Defender Office
11:30 – 11:45am	***Break*** *Snack Provided*		
11:45 – 12:30pm 45 mins	**JCMH's Most Frequently Asked Technical Assistance Questions** • *Prof. Brian D. Shannon, J.D.,* Horn Distinguished Professor, Texas Tech University School of Law • *Chris Lopez, J.D.*, Assistant General Counsel, Texas Health and Human Services Commission • *Kama Harris, J.D.,* Assistant Director, JCMH	**How Trauma Informed Principles Can Be Used in Mental Health Practice and Court Settings** • Alanda White, *D.N.P., M.S.N., A.P.R.N., F.N.P.-C., P.M.H.N.P.-B.C., H.I.V.P.C.P., F.P.A., P.F.A., F.A.D.L.N.*, Clinical Practitioner, San Antonio Northwest Health Care Center	**Beyond County Lines: *Using Regional Models to Support Rural Courts and Communities*** • *Hon. Brent Carr*, Federal Immigration Judge, Adelanto Immigration Court • *Kristi Taylor, J.D.*, Executive Director, JCMH • *Beth Lawson, M.B.A.,* CEO, StarCare Specialty Health System
12:30 pm	***Adjourn***		

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT INFORMATION

2026 Continuing Education Form & Certificate

All attendees must complete our online Continuing Education Form to receive credit and/or a certificate of attendance for self-reporting purposes.

For more information and the CE form, visit the Summit website or scan the QR Code.

Judges & Lawyers

MCLE State Bar of Texas
Texas Board of Legal Specialization

Course Number: 174337245

CLE: 9.75

Ethics: 0.75

TBLS Approved: 9.75 Child Welfare Law, Civil Appellate Law, Civil Trial Law, Criminal Appellate Law, Criminal Law, Family Law, Judicial Administration Law, Juvenile Law.

Social Workers, Law Enforcement, & Licensed Professional Counselors

CEU, TCOLE, LPC

Earn up to 9.75 possible CEU, TCOLE, and LPC training hours. Attendees are responsible for self-reporting these credits with a provided certificate of attendance and detailed agenda.

Peer Specialists

Texas Certification Board

All sessions at the Summit have been approved by the Texas Certification Board as GENERAL Continuing Education Units (CEUs) as required for MHPS, RSPS, JI-RPS, and PSS professionals. You will receive your CEU Certificate within 30 days from Austin Mental Health Community, a CEU Provider of the Texas Certification Board. Once the certificate is received, you must upload the certificate to your Certemy portal for approval. For any questions, contact scarr@austinmhc.org.

NOTE: Recordings are not accepted for additional Peer CEU hours.

NOTE: Please connect with Shannon Carr, scarr@austinmhc.org, if you have a designated certification with the Texas Certification Board and your credential is not listed above.

TCB Approved: 9.75 Mental Health Peer Specialist, Recovery Support Peer Specialist, Justice Impacted-Reentry Peer Specialist, & Peer Specialist Supervisor.

All Other Continuing Education Credits

We can provide a certificate of attendance to self-report any continuing education not offered above. Please email judicialsummitonmentalhealth@iemshows.com for a copy of your certificate of attendance.

Post-Event Recording Credits

We are offering on-demand recordings of each session and will email the link to these recordings a few weeks after the Summit concludes. The Summit on-demand recordings will offer 10.50 additional education hours, including 0.75 additional ethics hours, for a total of **20.25 credits with 0.75 ethics hours**. If you cannot attend the full Summit live, or if you would like to earn additional CEU credits, you can watch the recorded sessions after the event and complete an additional continuing education form for credit. Please email judicialsummitonmentalhealth@iemshows.com for a copy of your certificate of attendance.

Post-Event Recordings CLE Available: Approved for 20.25 hours and 0.75 Ethics.

Post-Event Recordings TBLS Approved: 20.25 Texas Board of Legal Specialization hours in Child Welfare Law, Civil Appellate Law, Civil Trial Law, Criminal Appellate, Criminal Law, Family Law, Judicial Administration Law, and Juvenile Law.



SAVE THE DATE!

We'll see you next December in Galveston for the 10th Annual Judicial Summit on Mental Health

---

Follow JCMH on social media!

Scan the QR codes to follow us on X, Facebook, YouTube, LinkedIn, and Instagram