

**KENDA CULPEPPER
ROCKWALL COUNTY
CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY**



**AUDREY MOOREHEAD
DALLAS COUNTY
COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE**



What Is Professionalism

- What is “Professionalism”?
- Benefits of the “Professional Lawyer”
- Reputation and legacy
- Good things that lawyers do



Brady Who?

- Prosecutor's Duty
- Defining Exculpatory and Mitigating Evidence?
- Failure to Disclose Under Brady (not Art.39.14)



Brady Training is Mandatory

Judges Need Ethics Too

- Campaigning is a pain!
- It's only a gift!
- Recuse Me!
- Invitation to the Ex Parte!
- No Prestige For Me!



Mentoring

- State Bar strives to provide resources to attorneys promoting the importance of mentoring and professional development



Innovative Thinking

How to Build a Highly Effective Mentoring Program

BY LORI L. KEATING, ESQ. AND JOHN E. MONTGOMERY

MENTORING, WITH ROOTS IN THE 19TH-CENTURY APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM OF TRAINING LAWYERS, IS BECOMING A WIDELY USED 21ST-CENTURY TOOL TO HELP NEW LAWYERS TRANSITION FROM LAW SCHOOL TO PRACTICE.

Within the past decade, local bar programs, many using the State Bar of Texas *Transition to Practice* approach, have spread throughout the country.¹ Statewide programs, modeled on trend-setting mentoring initiatives in Georgia and Ohio, are operating in more than 20 states.²

Mentoring is also used increasingly in law firms and law schools. This article provides a brief overview of how some local and statewide mentoring programs operate, the best practices to follow to ensure that a mentoring program will succeed, and predictions about the future of mentoring in the legal profession.

MENTORING THROUGH LOCAL BAR ASSOCIATIONS

The State Bar of Texas *Transition to Practice* program is a national leader in providing mentoring through local bar associations. Based on the Dallas Bar Association model, the program gained statewide exposure and expanded rapidly after Roland Johnson made mentoring a key initiative of his State Bar of Texas presidency in 2009–2010.³ Mentoring through local bars is now in operation in most major Texas cities and in several large counties.

The *Transition to Practice* program has been successful because it provides all the necessary structure to allow local bars to start and run their own mentoring programs for new lawyers. Local bars are provided a menu of mentoring topics; a mentoring format, which includes group meetings and individual mentoring sessions; the necessary forms and agreements; and even an evaluation form.⁴ With support from the State Bar of Texas and the Texas

Mentoring



The screenshot shows the State Bar of Texas website. The header includes the State Bar of Texas logo, navigation links for TexasBarCLE.com, TYLA.org, Career Center, and a Find a Lawyer button. Below the header is a dark navigation bar with links for FOR THE PUBLIC, FOR LAWYERS, ABOUT TEXAS BAR, NEWS & PUBLICATIONS, and ACCESS TO JUSTICE. The main content area features a sidebar on the left with a banner for 'TEXAS LAWYERS FOR TEXAS VETERANS' and a central section titled 'Mentoring'. The 'Mentoring' section includes a paragraph about the importance of mentors, followed by three sub-sections: 'TRANSITION TO PRACTICE', 'SBOT ADVISORY NETWORK', and 'TEN MINUTE MENTOR', each with a brief description of the program.

TEXAS LAWYERS FOR TEXAS VETERANS
Providing Legal Counsel To Those Who Served

www.texasbar.com/veterans

Mentoring

Recognizing the importance of mentors and related resources in an attorney's professional development, the State Bar of Texas strives to provide programs to Texas attorneys seeking personal and professional guidance as they navigate their careers.

TRANSITION TO PRACTICE

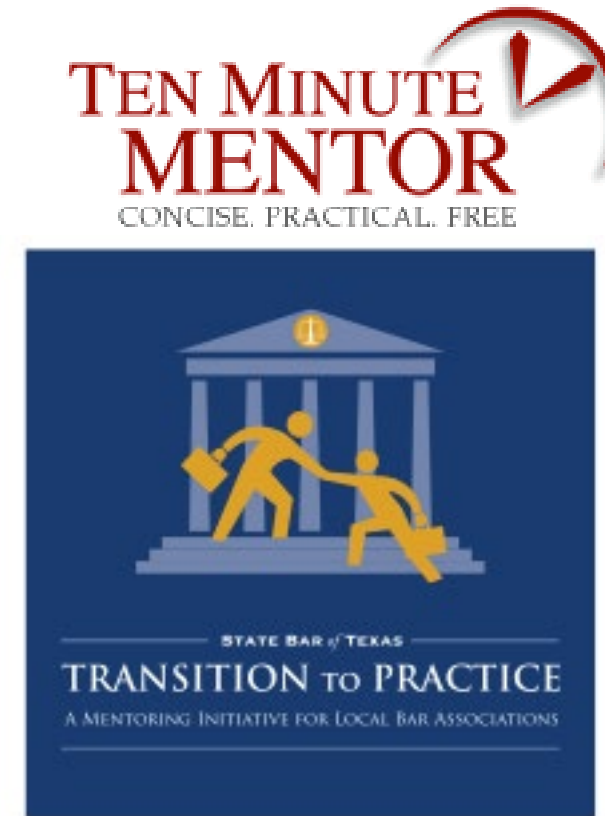
In this program, newly-licensed lawyers are matched with more experienced attorneys who volunteer their time and experience to mentor lawyers in their first several years of licensure. Mentoring covers many areas, including law practice management, effective client representation, pro bono opportunities, career development, and other aspects helpful to successfully practicing law.

SBOT ADVISORY NETWORK

The SBOT Advisory Network is a mentor bank available to attorneys seeking mentors throughout the state. The mentors participating in the SBOT Advisory Network are willing to answer practice specific or geographic questions and can be contacted directly using the contact information listed on this site. Search for mentors by geographic region and/or practice area.


TEN MINUTE MENTOR

The Ten Minute Mentor is an online collection of video presentations by leading lawyers in the state. Each short presentation offers free, practical advice and qualifies for MCLE self-study credit.




Mentoring Resources Available at:
texasbar.com/mentoring


Ten Minute Mentor



BE AN UNCOMMON LEADER.™



TexasBarCLE
Your Texas Law
and Education Center



TEN MINUTE
MENTOR

An ongoing collection of short instructional
presentations for the busy lawyer
Concise. Practical. Free.

TMM LAW SCHOOL

TYLA HOME

TEXASBARCLE HOME

SUGGEST TOPICS

FEEDBACK

SEARCH TMM BY KEYWORD:

("mandamus," "deposition," etc)

Search

Ten Minute Mentor is an online collection of video presentations from leading lawyers in their areas of expertise. Each presentation is typically short (around 10 minutes or less), practical, and free. Viewing presentations qualifies for MCLE self-study credit only.

[VIEW INDEX BY SPEAKER »](#)

[VIEW INDEX BY CATEGORY »](#)

NEW RELEASES

Overcoming Biases and Boundaries - Mar 21
by Panel
KoonsFuller
[View online](#) [Download MP3 / Podcast](#)


HIGHEST-RATED PRESENTATIONS

VA Disability Appeals Process Overview
by Allan K. Dubois and Brian K Walker
[View online](#) [Download MP3 / Podcast](#)

A Recipe for Conducting an Effective Voir Dire
by Robert Hirschhorn
Cathy E. Bennett & Associates
[View online](#) [Download MP3 / Podcast](#)

Assisting Sexual Assault Victims in Texas
by Kevin R. Madison
[View online](#) [Download MP3 / Podcast](#)

The Ten Minute Mentor materials are viewed using the free WindowsMedia Player and Acrobat Reader. If you need either you can download a free copy below



WTF

- How many grievances were filed against Texas Lawyers 2021-2022? (a) 5,217 (b) 7,175 (c) 9,526
- What percentage were classified as criminal law? (a) 8% (b) 15% (c) 22%
- What percentage of grievances were based on declining/terminating representation? (a) 9% (b) 18% (c) 14%
- What is the State Bar Security Fund?
- What percentage of grievances were based on communication issues? (a) 28% (b) 15% (c) 10%
- What percentage of grievances were dismissed as inquiries? (a) 37% (b) 70% (c) 54%

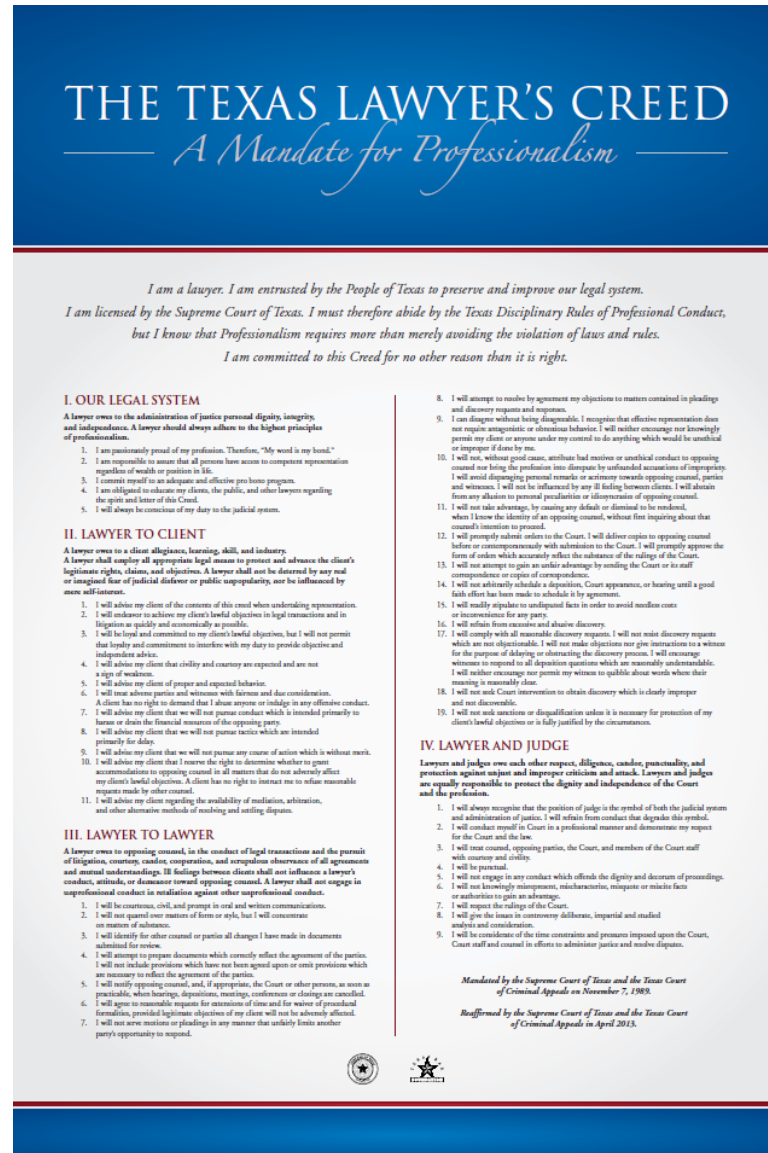
Avoid Popular Pitfalls

- Failure To Respond
- Failure to Communicate
- Neglect
- Failure to Safeguard Client Property



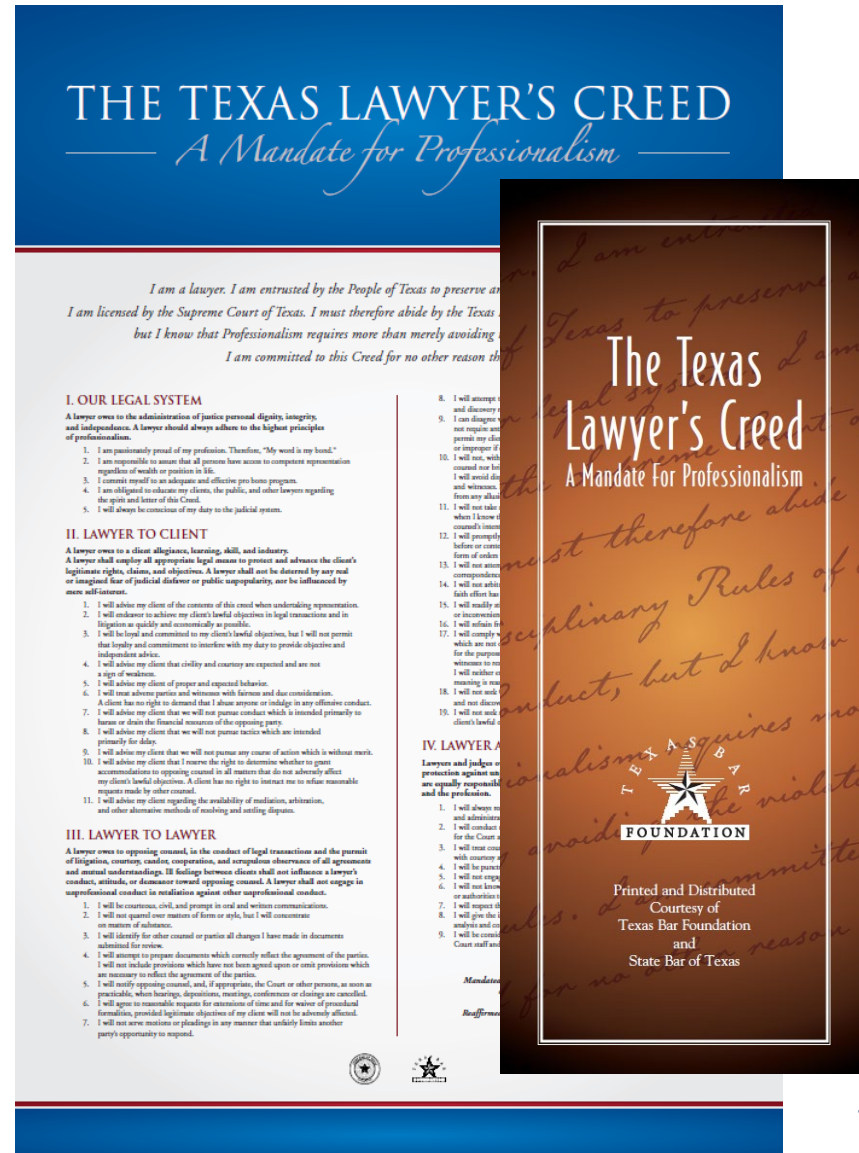
Texas Lawyer's Creed

- Declaration of professionalism
- Issued in 1989 by Court of Criminal Appeals and Texas Supreme Court
- Re-dedicated by CCA and Texas Supreme Ct. in 2013



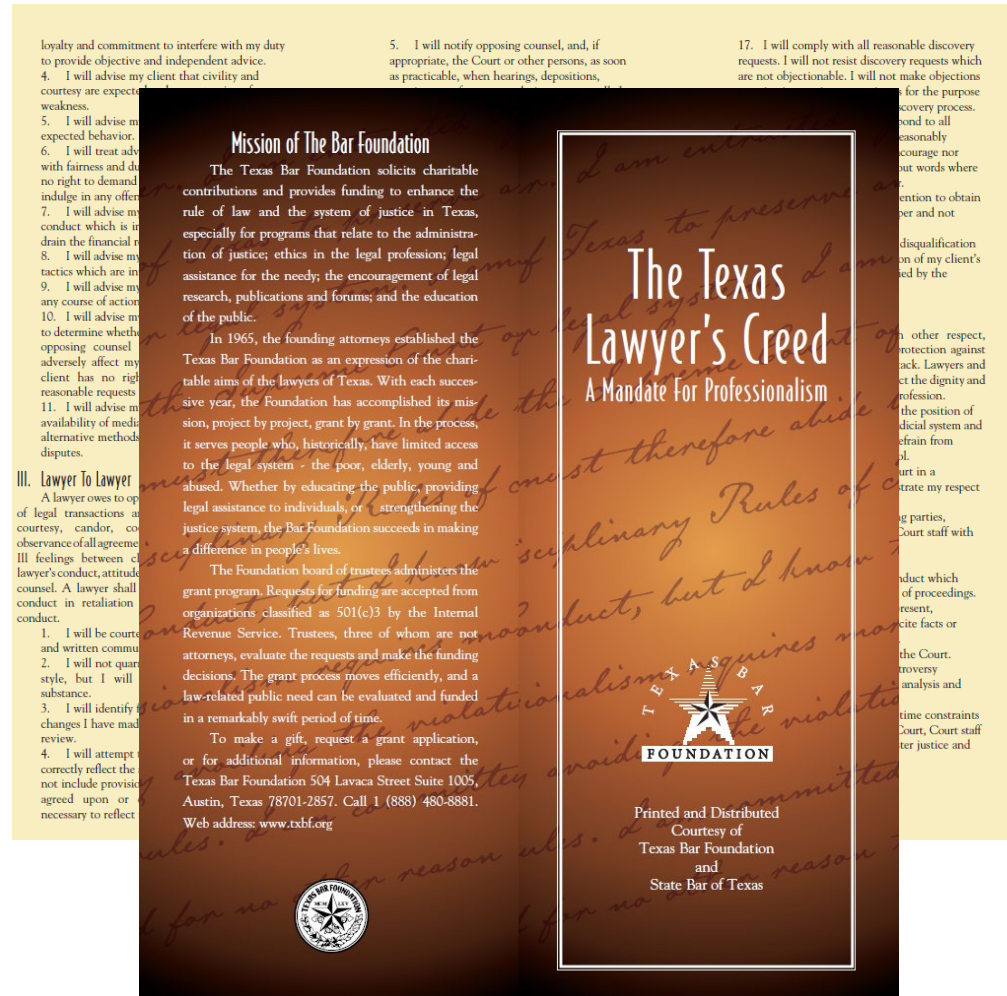
Texas Lawyer's Creed

- I. Our Legal System
- II. Lawyer to Client
- III. Lawyer to Lawyer
- IV. Lawyer and Judge



Texas Lawyer's Creed

- Brochures available in English and Spanish
- All State Bar members can receive a free poster and brochures
- To request a copy:
 - Email: professionalism@texasbar.com



Brochure

COLLEGIALITY LOOKS LIKE:



Ethics Hotline

- Provides guidance for members on ethical obligations
- Offered through Chief Disciplinary Counsel's Office (CDC)
- Toll-free: (800) 532-3947
- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday-Friday



CRIMINAL JUSTICE SECTION

- The Criminal Justice Section of the State Bar of Texas is made up of more than 3100 criminal practitioners, which includes prosecutors, defense attorneys and judges across the state. Our mission is to promote excellence in the practice of criminal law by embracing ethics, professionalism, education, training and fellowship.
- JOIN: txbarcjs.org

