

**Texas Association of Domestic Relations Offices  
36<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
OCTOBER 5-7, 2022  
HOUSTON, TEXAS  
CONFERENCE AGENDA**



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Thank you for joining the Texas Association of Domestic Relations Offices for its 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. *We are glad you came.* Through open discussion and the meaningful exchange of information and ideas, the Conference will expand and strengthen your knowledge, skills and techniques to better assist families involved in litigation.

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## [Registration](#)

Your registration fee includes admission to all sessions and special events. Visit the registration table if you have any questions or need assistance.

## [Minimum Continuing Legal Education - Attorneys](#)

TADRO has been approved by the State Bar of Texas for 8.5 participatory and .75 ethics hours of minimum continuing legal education and State Bar College. Attorneys should register their attendance at [texasbar.com](http://texasbar.com) and reference Course No: 174172226 and Sponsor No: A17134.

## [Continuing Education Credits – Texas State Board of Social Workers and Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors](#)

Harris County DRO is a continuing education credit provider. For credit, you must sign in at the registration table each day. The course is approved for 7.5 hours. Attendance certificates and speaker evaluations are available at the registration table.

## [Accommodations](#)

Expect a warm welcome when you arrive at The Post Oak Hilton. Located .3 miles from The Galleria Shopping Center (Houston's #1 attraction and the fourth largest shopping center in North America – over 350 stores). Both a hotel shuttle and METRO bus is available for your trip to the Galleria. The hotel offers ultimate leisure, entertainment and recreation and is just three miles from Memorial Park and the Houston Arboretum and Nature Center. The second-floor outdoor pool has plenty of seating, and there is a 24-hour fitness center, as well as two restaurants and a bar.

## [Houston Events and Sightseeing](#)

The Post Oak Hilton is located within six miles of Houston's rejuvenated downtown (Minute Maid Park, Jones Hall, Toyota Center and the Wortham Center) and the Houston Museum District (Houston Zoo, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Museum of Natural Science, and Hermann Park).

## [Parking](#)

Discounted overnight self-parking is \$15 per night for TADRO guests.

## [Complimentary WIFI](#)

Your room rate includes complimentary. Conference WIFI is "BALLROOM" and Password is "Houston22."

## [Conference Materials](#)

All speaker handouts are available through the TADRO website at [www.tadro.org](http://www.tadro.org).

## [Conference Social](#)

Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m. TADRO Officers and Directors welcome conference participants at The Pool Courtyard – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor. There will be Hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Games will be set up on the grassy lawn.

## [Conference Luncheon](#)

Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. The luncheon is included with your registration fee. Join us for lunch, a special presentation that will detail Houston's contributions to the United States' space program and a TADRO Membership Meeting.

## [Conference Breakfasts](#)

Breakfast is included with your registration fee. Join us Thursday for the Post Oak President's Breakfast. Join us Friday for breakfast tacos, juice and coffee as we end the conference on a positive note by finding personal inspiration through wellness activities.

## [Conference Door Prizes](#)

Door prizes will be announced before each conference break/lunch. Keep your ticket (located in your welcome bag) with you to qualify for a prize.



**Wednesday, October 5, 2022 (General Session; Ballroom C)**

11:00 am – 12 pm **TADRO Board Meeting** - Forum

12:00 – 4:00 p.m. **Registration** (Foyer 3)

1:00 – 1:10 p.m. **Welcome to Harris County - Opening Remarks & Announcements**  
David W. Simpson, President TADRO  
Executive Director, Harris County DRO, Houston

1:10 – 1:45 p.m. **Roll Call, Domestic Relations Offices Update and Video From Around The State**  
Directors from Bexar, Dallas, El Paso, Harris, Hidalgo, Lubbock, Tarrant, Taylor, and Travis Counties.

1:45 – 2:15 p.m. **They Ain't Heavy; They're My Clients** (CLE = .50)  
Kathryn Kase, J.D. Legal Counsel, Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo

2:15 – 3:00 p.m. **A Mixed Bag of Tricks: SAPCR Case Law Update** (CLE = .75)  
Sallee S. Smyth, J.D. Sallee Smyth, PLLC, Richmond, Texas

3:00 – 3:15 p.m. **BREAK - Over the Hump - Enjoy Freshly Popped Corn, Fresh Baked Cookies, Soft Drinks, Tea and Coffee**

3:15 – 4:00 p.m. **The Office of the Attorney General of Texas – IV-D Agency Trends, Initiatives & Update** (CLE = .75)  
Ryan Morrow, J.D., Deputy Division Chief for Field Legal Practice, Office of the Texas Attorney General

4:00 – 4:45 p.m. **2023 Texas Legislative Update & The Family Law Foundation** (CLE = .75)  
Steve Bresnen, J.D. and Amy Bresnen, J.D., Bresnen Associates, Inc.,

4:45 – 5:00 p.m. **Announcements and Adjourn**

5:15 – 7:00 p.m. **Conference Social – The Pool Courtyard (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)** Hors d'oeuvres include: Chili con Queso, Vegetable Spring Rolls, & Chicken Empanadas. Cash Bar. Enjoy games on the lawn.  
**Come renew and create memories with your TADRO colleagues that will last well after the conference!**



# TADRO 2022

## Thursday, October 6, 2022 (Break Out Sessions – Ballroom C, Concorde Room and Forum Room)

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. **Post Oak President’s Breakfast – Foyer 3**  
*Breakfast bagels with cream cheese, chocolate filled croissants, Canadian bacon and pepper jack cheese, and English muffin with egg whites; fresh fruit and berries; orange, grapefruit and cranberry juice; coffee; teas; and soft*

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. **TADRO Executive Director’s Breakfast – Forum Room**

8:00 – 10:00 a.m. **Late Registration** (Foyer C)

### **TRACK 1 LEGAL SERVICES (Ballroom C)**

### **TRACK 2 FAMILY COURT SERVICES (Concorde Room)**

### **TRACK 3 ACCESS/VISITATION GRANT (Forum Room)**

8:30 – 9:15 a.m.

8:30 – 9:15 a.m.

Recipients of the OAG Grant  
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

**Possession and Access Modifications**  
Maliha Ali, J.D., Attorney, Harris County,  
Clint Depew, J.D. Ex. Director, Tarrant County  
Krystal Fuentes, Paralegal, EL Paso County  
(CLE = .75)

**Substance Abuse Assessment & Testing**  
Bruce Jefferies, President  
National Screening Center, LLC (CEU = .75)

**Not Seen and Not Heard: Impact of Family Violence on Children**  
Thecia Jenkins, Training Director,  
Harris County Domestic Violence  
Coordinating Council (CEU = 1.5)

9:15 – 10:00 a.m.  
**Immigration Law Considerations in Family Law Cases** (CLE = .75)  
Karleana Farias, J.D., The Farias Law Firm

9:15 – 10:00 a.m.  
**Vicarious Trauma- It Is My Problem**  
Jane McEldowney, J.D., L.P.C.  
McEldowney Mediation, LLC, (CEU = .75)

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. **BREAK – Coffee, Herbal Teas and Soft Drinks**

10:15 – 11:00 a.m.  
**Ethics of Family Law** (CLE = .75, .75 Ethics)  
Laura Dale, J.D., Laura Dale & Assoc.  
Board Certified Family Law

10:15 – 11:00 a.m.  
**Autism. A Different Way to Think**  
Hellen Adedipe, MA, BCBA, LBA.  
The Reason For Hope (CEU = .75)

10:15 – 11:00 a.m.  
**Breaking the Cycles: Importance of Fatherhood Involvement**  
Joshua Banks, Outreach and  
Engagement Specialist OAG - Child  
Support Division (CEU = .75)



11:00 – 12:00 a.m.

**Navigating CPS**, Dennis Slate, J.D.  
Board Certified Family Law & Child Welfare Law  
Slate & Associates, P.C. (CLE = 1 / CEU = 1)

11:00 – 12:00 a.m.

**Common Mistakes In Child Custody Evaluations**  
Edward G. Silverman, Ph.D.,  
(CLE = 1 / CEU = 1)

11:00 – 12:00 a.m.

**Grantee Reporting Requirements**  
Nikki Hunt, Access and Visitation  
Manager, OAG - Child Support Division

**Luncheon & TADRO Membership Meeting - The Boulevard Ballroom**

**12:00 – 1:25 p.m.**

**Post Oak House Salad, Roasted Supreme of Chicken Brest, Artesian Bread Basket & Chocolate Cake with Raspberries**

**“National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the Important of Next”** Steven C. Smith, MA, EPDC

**TRACK 1  
LEGAL SERVICES  
(Ballroom C)**

1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

**We Walk the Line: The SRL Program  
Tightrope** - Hon. Bethany Arnold, Assoc. Judge  
247th Family District Court, Sharron Wall, J.D.  
Harris County DRO, & Max Lisle, J.D.  
Tarrant County DRO (CLE = .75)

2:15 – 3:00 p.m.

**Domestic Crypto: Decoding  
Cryptocurrency Within the Realm of,  
Matrimonial Disputes**  
Dorothy Haraminac,,MBA CFE, MAFF, PI,  
GreenVets, LLC (CLE = .75)

**TRACK 2  
FAMILY COURT SERVICES  
(Concorde Room)**

1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

**Trans & other LGBTQ+ Children in  
Child Custody Evaluations** (CLE = .75 CEU = .75)  
Jane Langdell Robinson, J.D.  
Ahmad, Zavitsanos & Mensing  
Board Certified Appellate Law

2:15 – 3:00 p.m.

**The Judges’ Perspective on Child Custody Evaluations”**  
Honorable Sonya L. Heath, 310<sup>th</sup> Family District Court, Harris County  
Honorable Charles Collins, Associate 310<sup>th</sup> Family District Court  
(CLE = .75 / CEU = .75)

**TRACK 3  
ACCESS/VISITATION GRANT  
(Forum Room)**

1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

**Round Table Discussion  
With A/V Grantees**  
• Successes in FY 2022  
• Regional Trends  
• Challenges  
• Best and Promising AV Practice



# TADRO 2022

## Thursday, October 6, 2022 (cont'd)

3:00 p.m. **ADJOURN ALL TRACKS**

3:15 p.m. **Tour of Bayou Bend and Museum of Fine Arts Houston**

Load Buses Outside Hotel Side Entrance for Tour of Bayou Bend Collection & Gardens, 6003 Memorial Drive, Houston, Texas 77007. Limited Ticketing for Attendees From Outside Harris County.

## Friday, October 7, 2022 (General Session; Ballroom C)

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. **BREAKFAST – Foyer 3**

Breakfast Tacos - egg, cheese and bacon tacos; egg, cheese and potato tacos; coffee; herbal teas and soft drinks.

8:30 – 10:00 a.m. Interpreting Body Language (CLE = 1 / CEU = 1.5)

Dr. Cynthia Kay, PhD., LPC-S, MAC, SAP, Brighter & Brighter, PLLC

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. **BREAK**

10:15 – 11:30 a.m. Health & Wellness Activities – Art Therapy, Meditation, & Activities.” (CEU - 1.25)

[Finding balance in work and life is essential for your happiness and well-being. Come join us for hands-on activities to help reset your mind and give you the mental downtime your body needs to feel refreshed and rejuvenated. Come prepared to learn and practice new stress management techniques.](#)

Victoria Spencer, MS, CPT, Wellness Manager

Brandy Ogg, RDN, LD Onside Health Coach

Harris County Employee Wellness

11:50 – 12:00 p.m. **Final Business**

12:00 p.m. **CONFERENCE ADJOURN - SEE YOU IN EL PASO, TEXAS FOR THE 2023 TADRO CONFERENCE!**



## **Thank You:**

1. *To our speakers who gave their time and talent. They each delivered relevant information through informative and interesting presentations;*
2. *To the TADRO Officers and Board of Directors;*
3. *Special thanks to the **Harris County Domestic Relations Office staff** who gave dedication, their energy and good will to TADRO. The conference was a pleasure to host. We hope you enjoyed your time in Houston. Special thanks to the Harris County Conference Committee: Deanna Lee, Blanca Reyna, Milanna Hodges, Jane McMahon, Kym Harris, Idania Montoya, Tracy Pounds, Suli Hernandez, Itheia Minor, Jorge Gil, Deborah Patterson, Yvette Edwards and Gwen Adams.*

## **TADRO Statewide Organization:**

**The Texas Association of Domestic Relations Offices (TADRO)** is the statewide organization of individual county Domestic Relations Offices and affiliated offices.

The Charter Members of TADRO are the original founders of the organization in 1985 and they are Harris County, Tarrant County and Travis County. The charter members have been joined by Bexar, Dallas, El Paso, Hidalgo, Lubbock, and Taylor Counties to give TADRO a broad and dynamic statewide mission.

The mission of TADRO is to provide training, information on best practices and share information among the member DRO's and to provide educational and informational services to the public. Information and services are related to the child support, possession and access to children, mediation, child custody evaluations, adoption evaluations, parenting coordination, community supervision, self-represented family litigants, supervised visitation, parenting workshops and much more.

# **Texas Association of Domestic Relations Offices**

## **2021 – 2022 Board of Directors**

### OFFICERS

President: David Simpson, Executive Director  
Harris County

President-Elect: Brian Stanley, Executive Director  
El Paso County

Vice President: Clint Dupew, Executive Director  
Tarrant County

Treasurer: Rebecca Miranda, Senior Legal Secretary  
Travis County

Secretary: Blanca Reyna, Grants/Statistical Analyst/  
IT Liaison, Harris County

Past-President: Scot Doyal, Executive Director  
Travis County

### BOARD MEMBERS

Jane McMahon, Director of Legal Services  
Harris County

Max Lisle, Legal Services Attorney  
Tarrant County

Etta Jarmon, Senior Office Manager  
Travis County

Myra Kirland, Prior Director, FCS  
Dallas County

Connie Moreno, Operations Manager  
El Paso County

Rosa Castillo, Executive Director  
Taylor County

Suli Hernandez, Community Supervision Officer  
Harris County

Tony Neugebauer, Executive Director  
Bexar County

Angela Igrisan, Executive Director  
Dallas County

Gene Valentini, Executive Director  
Lubbock County

Ida Trejo, Executive Director  
Hidalgo County



## 2023 TADRO VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP

I would like to volunteer to serve on the following 2023 TADRO Committee(s), please check each choice that applies:

\_\_\_\_\_ Government Affairs & Contracts

\_\_\_\_\_ Legislation

\_\_\_\_\_ Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ Budget & Finance

\_\_\_\_\_ Nominating Committee

\_\_\_\_\_ Conference Subcommittee

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Agency/Office \_\_\_\_\_

Office Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed form to the TADRO Conference Registration Table before leaving the conference.