



### Upcoming Events

- ◆ [4/5 Talk Tuesday](#) online CLE
- ◆ [4/22 Masters in Trial](#), San Antonio Marriott Riverwalk
- ◆ [4/23 TEX-ABOTA Board Meeting](#), Fort Worth
- ◆ [4/28 David H. Hockema Civil Trial Conference](#), McAllen Double Tree Hotel
- ◆ 4/28 Annual Dinner @ [Bodega Tavern & Kitchen](#) Cocktails at 6:00pm—Dinner to follow
- ◆ [5/3 Talk Tuesday](#) online CLE
- ◆ [5/12 ABOTA National Board Meeting](#), Chicago
- ◆ [5/19 TEX-ABOTA Reception with Supreme Court](#), Austin [Headliners Club](#)
- ◆ [6/6 TEX-ABOTA Civil Justice Roundtable Meeting via Zoom](#)
- ◆ [6/7 Talk Tuesday](#) online CLE
- ◆ [6/16 - 6/19 TEX-ABOTA Santa Fe CLE Roundup](#)
- ◆ [6/19 TEX-ABOTA Board Meeting](#)—Santa Fe

### Notable News

We are proud to announce that TEX-ABOTA's Rio Grande Valley Chapter will award a monetary scholarship between \$2,500 and \$5,000 to a UTRGV student(s) graduating Spring/Summer 2022 who has been accepted to law school and will enroll as a 1st year law student in the Summer/Fall 2022. The application deadline is April 1st. We have already received several applications and hope to announce the scholarship recipient at the annual dinner on April 28th.

### Masters in Trial

*Presented by the San Antonio, Corpus Christi & RGV Chapters*

April 22, 2022  
8:30am - 5:00pm  
Live In-Person Event

San Antonio Marriott Riverwalk  
899 E Market Street  
San Antonio, TX 78205

#### Trial Teams

##### Plaintiff Team

Katheryn Snapka  
David Bright  
Daniel J.T. Sciano  
Frank Guerra  
John Gsanger  
Joe Escobedo

##### Defense Team

Ricardo Cedillo  
Lamont Jefferson  
Jennifer Durbin  
Jane Brockus  
Susan Sullivan  
Douglas Chaves

##### Presiding Judge

Judge Cathy Stryker

##### Steering Committee

Dennis Peery  
Kevin Lilies  
Luis Cardenas  
Patricia Alvarez  
Bobby Ramirez

##### Jury Consultant

R. Bruce Phillips

#### Pricing Information and Registration Info

Registration fee:	\$299.00
Judges, Law Clerks, and Students:	\$50.00
Young Lawyer (less than 5 years) or Government Lawyer:	\$150.00

### Our Look to the Future

TEX-ABOTA's Talk Tuesday CLEs have been a success and great opportunity to hear from judges across the State. We encourage all of our members to register each month.

The RGV Chapter is working on organizing a quarterly online one-hour CLE for its members and we welcome your input. Please email any topics or thoughts on suggested speakers to Susan Sullivan at [ssullivan@atlashall.com](mailto:ssullivan@atlashall.com).

Be on the lookout for information regarding our first online CLE in April.

### Annual Dinner

April 28th - 6pm

[Bodega Tavern & Kitchen](#)  
[2901 N. 10th in McAllen](#)

### A Note from our President



Welcome RGV ABOTA members! As we begin to emerge from complications related to COVID, we are kicking off this new year with some exciting new programs and a number of events. We begin this year with our first ever quarterly newsletter, which will help keep you informed about what is going on locally and throughout Texas. If you have any news that you would like to share with the Chapter, please let us know for the next publication.

We have been invited to partner with the San Antonio and Corpus Christi chapters and participate in the Masters In Trial ("MIT") program on April 22, 2022. MIT will be held in San Antonio and will be a great opportunity to witness experienced attorneys from each of these chapters participate in a live "trial" before a jury. For information on registering, [click here](#).

As you know, we had to cancel our last two scheduled dates for the David Hockema Civil Trial Law CLE and the annual ABOTA dinner honoring the Judiciary. We are excited to announce that we will be holding the Civil Trial Law CLE in-person on April 28, 2022, at the Doubletree Hotel in McAllen. The committee has lined up some amazing speakers and trial lawyers presenting on interesting and relevant topics. To see the brochure and register for the CLE, [click here](#).

On April 28, 2022, following the CLE, we will have our annual ABOTA dinner at Bodega Tavern and Kitchen in McAllen from 6-9 p.m. In addition to honoring our local Judiciary, we will formally welcome our newest members (Javier Gonzalez, Bill Garza, Rex Leach and Michael Rodriguez). Chef Adam is already planning a great menu and we hope to see everyone there!

We are excited to announce that this year marks the first time our RGV Chapter will present a scholarship to a UTRGV student who will enter law school in the Fall. This gives our Chapter the opportunity to give back to our community and assist a local student with dreams of becoming a lawyer. We are very excited about this scholarship and have already received several applications from some local students. We hope to announce the recipient of the scholarship at the annual ABOTA dinner on April 28th.

If you know of anyone you believe is qualified and interested in joining ABOTA, please reach out to [me](#) or [Bobby Ramirez](#), Membership Chair. Once a nominee has been approved by the Executive Committee, a ballot will be sent out to all our members for a vote. A nominee needs to receive approval from 75% of the existing members so please make sure you do not miss the opportunity to vote.

Last, but certainly not least, voting for President of the State Bar of Texas starts April 1, 2022. Our very own Joe Escobedo is working hard out on the campaign trail and he needs our vote. Please vote for Joe on April 1st and encourage all your friends and colleagues to vote for Joe as well!!!

~Susan Sullivan