40th Annual Page Keeton
Civil Litigation Conference

October 27–28, 2016
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THURSDAY MORNING, OCT. 27, 2016

Presiding Officer:
Erica W. Harris, Susman Godfrey LLP, Houston, TX

7:30 a.m. Registration Opens
Includes continental breakfast.

8:20 a.m. Welcoming Remarks

8:30 a.m. .50 hr
Texas Civil Procedure Update
Review recent judicial decisions and rules affecting Texas civil practice, including a written comprehensive review of recent case law to use as a handy reference tool for practitioners.

Elaine Grafton Carlson, Houston College of Law, Houston, TX

Materials By:
Courtney Taylor Carlson, Jackson Walker LLP, Houston, TX

9:00 a.m. .50 hr
Texas Supreme Court Update
Hear a Texas Supreme Court Justice and an appellate litigator provide different points of view on significant decisions from the past term.

Hon. Jeffrey S. Boyd, The Supreme Court of Texas, Austin, TX
Lisa Bowlin Hobbs, Kuhn Hobbs PLLC, Austin, TX

9:30 a.m. .50 hr
What Every Civil Litigator Needs to Know About Bankruptcy
Learn what every civil litigator should know about bankruptcy, and get tips for handling common issues that arise in bankruptcy and civil litigation.

Melanie Gray, Winston & Strawn LLP, Houston, TX

10:00 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. .50 hr
Extraordinary Remedies
All plaintiffs want their relief—and they want it right now. Learn when courts can tie up assets and control conduct prior to a judgment.

Karen C. Burgess, Richardson + Burgess LLP, Austin, TX

10:45 a.m. .50 hr
Using Demonstratives to Make Your Case
Demonstrative evidence is evidence you can create! Don’t miss the opportunity to make the most of it.

Britta Stanton, Lynn Pinker Cox & Hurst, LLP, Dallas, TX

11:15 a.m. .50 hr
Texas Uniform Trade Secrets Act and the New Federal Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016: What’s all the Hubbub About?
These state and federal statutes have displaced the old common law enforcement of trade secrets in Texas. What is the difference? In what ways do practitioners need to adapt to the new statutes?

Michael K. Oldham, Reynolds Frizzell LLP, Houston, TX

11:45 a.m. Pick Up Lunch

Included in registration.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Presiding Officer:
Michael K. Oldham, Reynolds Frizzell LLP, Houston, TX

12:05 p.m. 1.00 hr | .50 hr ethics
LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

Panel Discussion:
Texas Greats on Business Litigation
Modern complex business litigation presents risks to both sides. With success requiring creativity and advocacy skills, these premier litigators discuss challenges and opportunities in the arenas of damages, contempt, and alternative dispute resolution in 21st Century litigation.

Moderators:
Sofia Adrogue, Gray Reed & McGraw, P.C., Houston, TX
Hon. Caroline Elizabeth Baker, 295th Civil District Court, Houston, TX

Panelists:
Lamont A. Jefferson, Jefferson Cano, San Antonio, TX
David J. Beck, Beck Redden LLP, Houston, TX
Alice Oliver-Parrott, Alice Oliver-Parrott, P.C., Houston, TX

12:05 p.m. Break

1:20 p.m. .75 hr
Current Issues in Oil and Gas Law
Explore recent case developments in different areas of oil and gas law in Texas, identify trends, and make predictions for where most litigation will be focused in coming years.

Rick G. Strange, Cotton Bledsoe Tighe & Dawson, PC, Midland, TX
John F. Sullivan III, K&L Gates LLP, Houston, TX

2:05 p.m. .50 hr
Recent Developments Regarding the Discovery Rule and Fraudulent Concealment Doctrine
In recent years, the Texas Supreme Court has offered significant guidance on how lower courts should apply the discovery rule and the fraudulent concealment doctrine. Review the cases and learn how they could impact plaintiffs’ and defendants’ approaches to these tolling doctrines going forward.

Timothy S. McConn, YetterColeman LLP, Houston, TX

2:35 p.m. .50 hr
Anti SLAAP: What is Left of Reputational Torts so Long as This Statute is on the Books?
Motions to dismiss reputational torts and other suits under the Texas anti-SLAPP law (Chapter 27 of the TCPRC) are creating a fast-growing motions practice that often catches practitioners flat-footed. How do we deal with this law and maintain access to courts for reputational torts?

Mark C. Walker, Dykema Cox Smith, El Paso, TX

3:05 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m. .75 hr ethics
Ethics Jeopardy
Have fun while you earn ethics credit with a friendly game of Ethics Jeopardy! Participants will refresh their ethics knowledge with a series of multiple-choice questions and explanations.

Adam T. Schramek, Norton Rose Fulbright, Austin, TX

4:00 p.m. .50 hr ethics
Ethical Challenges in Prepping and Presenting Witnesses
Review ethical rules for preparing and presenting witnesses, and learn how to square those rules with good advocacy.

Stephen E. McConnico, Scott Douglass & McConnico LLP, Austin, TX

4:30 p.m. Adjourn
FRIDAY MORNING, OCT. 28, 2016

Presiding Officer: Karen C. Burgess, Richardson + Burgess LLP, Austin, TX

7:30 a.m. Conference Room Opens
Includes continental breakfast.

8:15 a.m. .75 hr ethics

Cybersecurity for Law Firms
Hear what lawyers and law firms need to know about data security to avoid losing clients and getting sued.
Michael C. Smith, Siebman, Burg, Phillips & Smith, LLP, Marshall, TX
Robert L. King, Silicon Labs, Austin, TX

9:00 a.m. .50 hr

Recent Developments in Exposure Actions and the Uncertain Future of Stigma Damages
Explore recent developments in Texas law that may have a significant impact on the recovery of damages in actions based on exposure of land to toxic substances. The discussion includes 2014 Texas Supreme Court decisions impacting damages calculations and a recent opinion from the San Antonio Court of Appeals that threatens to dramatically reshape the way nuisance damages are litigated.
William R. Keffer, Texas Tech University School of Law, Lubbock, TX
Materials By:
Christopher O. Dachniwsky, Thompson & Knight, LLP, Dallas, TX

9:30 a.m. .50 hr

Hearsay in a Wireless World
Review important hearsay issues, with an emphasis on hearsay appearing in social media, texts, and other new media.
Steven Goode, The University of Texas School of Law, Austin, TX

10:00 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. .50 hr

Recent Developments and Hot Topics in Patent Litigation
What does intellectual property have to do with my practice? Learn how the recent patent, copyright and trademark rulings by the U.S. Supreme Court and Circuit Courts are pervading every area of practice, including yours. A take home primer geared towards everyone’s practice!
Jennifer Doan, Haltom & Doan, Texarkana, TX

10:45 a.m. .75 hr

Tips for an Effective Voir Dire
Learn what the cases allow and what techniques are most effective in voir dire.
Quentin Brogdon, Cran Lewis Brogdon, LLP, Dallas, TX
Hon. Bonnie Lee Goldstein, 44th District Court, Dallas, TX

11:30 a.m. .50 hr

Pick Up Lunch
Included in registration.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Presiding Officer: Amy Snell, Shipley Snell Montgomery LLP, Houston, TX

LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

11:50 a.m. .75 hr ethics

Lawyer Disqualification: Recent Developments & Practical Tips
Motions to disqualify counsel continue to proliferate. Consequences can be severe for lawyers and clients. The client can lose counsel of choice, and the lawyer can lose the client and potentially face liability claims and disciplinary problems. Review recent disqualification decisions and discuss practical tips for litigating disqualification motions.
Charles Herring Jr., Herring & Panzer, L.L.P., Austin, TX
Gaines F. West II, West Webb Allbritton & Gentry P.C., College Station, TX

12:35 p.m. Break

12:50 p.m. .50 hr

What’s New in Insurance?
Get the latest insurance law developments for the general litigator—Stowers claims, deals and turnovers; pleading into coverage and more.
William J. Chriss, Law Office of William J. Chriss, P.C., Corpus Christi, TX

1:20 p.m. .50 hr | .25 hr ethics

New Opportunities in Employment Law for Civil Litigators
Explore the effects of the sharing economy on the traditional employment model as companies use technology to connect providers and end-users in novel ways, and employees increasingly view themselves as individual entrepreneurs with their own business aspirations. Understand more about the scope and limitations of the employee-vs-contractor classification system, the use of arbitration agreements as a response to judicial second-guessing, the scope of an employee’s fiduciary duty, the ownership of employee inventions, and some of the potential consequences associated with replacing the traditional employment model with individually-defined, market-driven, peer-to-peer business relationships.
Jason Boulette, Boulette Golden & Marin LLP, Austin, TX

1:50 p.m. .50 hr

Current Issues Facing Juries in State and Federal Courts
Courts are confronting new challenges presented by social media and the Internet, while at the same time dealing with a declining percentage of cases tried to a jury verdict. What are the practicalities facing lawyers and courts when jurors live online, lawyers have new access into their lives, and jurors have new expectations of access to the facts? Ideas from the perspective of practitioners in both state and federal and civil and criminal courts.
Derek S. Hollingsworth, Rusty Hardin & Associates LLP, Houston, TX
Jim M. Perdue Jr., Perdue & Kidd, Houston, TX

2:20 p.m. .50 hr

Changes in FRCP and Discovery Update
Amy Snell, Shipley Snell Montgomery LLP, Houston, TX

2:50 p.m. Adjourn

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ABOUT W. PAGE KEETON

W. Page Keeton, Dean Emeritus and W. Page Keeton Chair Emeritus in Tort Law at The University of Texas School of Law was born in McCoy, Texas on August 22, 1909 and passed away on January 10, 1999. During his fifty-eight years of service to The Law School, Page Keeton became known for his remarkably varied and lasting achievements as dean (1949–74), teacher, torts scholar, lawyer and public citizen. Prominent among his publications is the most-cited torts treatise in the world, Prosser & Keeton on Torts (1984).

When Keeton entered UT Law School in the fall of 1928, there were eight faculty members and about 300 students. The standards for admission were low, but the faculty, on the other hand, were “outstanding.” He was an extremely successful law student, publishing three law review pieces and ultimately graduating first in his class. He joined the law school faculty the following year at age 23. He earned a Doctor of Juridical Science from Harvard University in 1936.

As dean, Keeton was determined that Texas would achieve national recognition as an excellent law school. He attacked the problem of lack of sufficient funding “to recruit and keep scholars of distinction” on the faculty by founding The University of Texas Law School Foundation and implemented a highly visible and ambitious program of continuing legal education. In 1997, the City of Austin renamed 26th Street so that The Law School is now located at 727 East Dean Keeton Street.

This course has been approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of Texas Committee on MCLE in the amount of 12.75 hours, of which 3.50 credit hours will apply to legal ethics/professional responsibility credit. The University of Texas School of Law is a State Bar of California approved MCLE provider (#1944), and an Oklahoma Bar Association MCLE presumptively-approved provider (#169).