



Admission is free
Dress attire - casual
Mexican/Cuban Guayaberas & Guayamisas encouraged

Earn up to 7.50 Hours of CLE Credit including 2.50 Hours of Ethics Credit
TX Legal Specialization Credit Approved for Bankruptcy Law
TX CLE sponsor Houston Bar Association

Simultaneous Broadcast

For video, sign in to Chief Judge Rodriguez’s Zoom link on:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1615406518?pwd=IINxyUDNWrs4k0OjcWp7hduBBRqrnV.1>

Meeting ID: 161 540 6518

Passcode: 909217

Important Announcements & Deadlines

1. **Registration**: Registration will commence on **Wednesday, October 1, 2025** To register, click on this link: <https://www.hba.org/?pg=events&evAction=showDetail&eid=307790>
2. **Seating Capacity**: In person attendance is limited to the first two hundred fifty (250) registrants. The Jury Assembly Room seats 200 and the overflow Room No. 6000 located on the 6th Floor seats 50. All other registrants may participate virtually via Chief Judge Rodriguez’s Zoom link Meeting ID 777 9784 9463. In person paralegal attendance is limited to one paralegal per firm. There is no limit for paralegals attending virtually.
3. **Charging Stations**: There will be a limited number of charging stations available. Attendees are encouraged to bring along their own battery backup chargers for their electronic devices.
4. **Mobile App**: A mobile application for smart phones will be provided prior to or at the conference.
5. **Pro-Bono Project**: In coordination with Lone Star Legal Aid, we will again be hosting a pro-bono clinic immediately after the conference. We are expanding qualified applicants to U.S. Veterans. If you would like to volunteer to represent a qualified applicant please register here: <https://www.hba.org/?pg=events&evAction=showDetail&eid=308809>
6. **Lone Star Legal Aid Contact**: Ms. Mariame Aana, Director, Lone Star Legal Aid 713.652.0077 extension 1030.
7. **Pro-Bono Volunteer Perks**: For volunteer lawyers, Lone Star Legal Aid provides the following support services:
 - a. Access to a variety of free video and in-person CLE trainings;
 - b. Free malpractice insurance, while volunteering for a case(s);
 - c. Sample pleadings and forms, as requested;
 - d. Reimbursement for pre-approved litigation and out-of-pocket expenses;
 - e. Access to LSLA’s copying equipment and office space, if needed;
 - f. Free translation and interpreting services for clients who primary language is not English, if motion requesting such services is denied by the court;

3rd Annual Southern District of Texas Consumer Bankruptcy Conference
January 15, 2026
1st Floor Jury Assembly Room – Bob Casey Courthouse, 515 Rusk Ave., Houston, Texas

- g. Free tuition to seminars sponsored by the SBOT CLE department, in exchange for accepting two pro bono cases per year;
- h. Free access to Westlaw Doc & Form Builder, samples, checklists, and other materials to make your pro bono service more efficient; and,
- i. Access to the Pro Bono Mentor Match database in order to provide volunteers with a list of experienced practitioners/mentors.

Thursday, January 15, 2026

Presiding Officer:

Chief Bankruptcy Judge Eduardo V. Rodriguez

SCHEDULE

- | | |
|---|--|
| 7:45 a.m. | Meet and Greet
Includes breakfast tacos and java with the judges.
(Served by the Bankruptcy Judges) |
| 8:30 a.m. | Presentation of Colors and National Anthem
Humble ISD Summer Creek High School Junior Reserve Officer's
Training Corp. Color Guard |
| 8:40 a.m. | Welcoming Remarks

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk of Court
Hon. Randy Crane, Chief U.S. District Judge
Hon. Eduardo V. Rodriguez, Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge |
| 9:00 a.m.
0.75 hours 0.25 hours
ethics | Caselaw Update
Panelists:
Tom Howley, Howley Law, PLLC
Christopher Murray, Chapter 7 Trustee
H. Gray Burks, IV, Counsel for Yvonne Valdez, Chapter 13 Trustee |
| 9:45 a.m.
0.75 hours 0.25 hours
ethics | Initial Client Interview; Prebankruptcy Planning, Schedules, Plan and More
Moderator:
Hon. Marvin Isgur, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

Panelists:
Ken Keeling, Keeling Gutierrez Law Firm
Allison Byman, Chapter 7 Trustee
Cristina Rodriguez, Counsel for Tiffany Castro, Chapter 13 Trustee |

3rd Annual Southern District of Texas Consumer Bankruptcy Conference
January 15, 2026
1st Floor Jury Assembly Room – Bob Casey Courthouse, 515 Rusk Ave., Houston, Texas

Panelists:

Catherine Curtis, Chapter 7 Trustee
Eva Englehart, Chapter 7 Trustee
J. Maxwell Beatty, Chapter 7 Trustee

2:00 p.m.

0.75 hours | 0.25 hours
ethics

Creditor's Panel

Motions for Relief, Valuation, Proofs of Claim

Moderator:

Kevin Maraist, Anderson, Lehrman, Barre & Maraist, LLP

Panelists:

Steve Wilcox, Wilcox Law, PLLC
Mitch Buchman, Barrett, Daffin, Frappier, Turner & Engel
Don Knabeschuh

2:45 p.m.

0.75 hours | 0.25 hours
ethics

Chapter 13 Panel

Rule 3002.1 and Revised Form Plan and Modification

Moderator:

Hon. Alfredo R. Perez, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

Panelists:

David Peake, Chapter 13 Trustee, Houston, TX
Yvonne Valdez, Chapter 13 Trustee, Corpus Christi, TX
Tiffany Castro, Chapter 13 Trustee, Houston, TX

3:30 p.m.

Snack Break

Ice cream sandwiches served

3:45 p.m.

0.75 hours | 0.25 hours
ethics

Exemptions

Moderator:

Hon. Eduardo V. Rodriguez, Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

Panelists:

Yvonne Valdez, Chapter 13 Trustee, Corpus Christi, TX
Annie Catmull, O'Conner Wechsler, P.C.

4:30 p.m.

0.75 hours | 0.25 hours
ethics

Judges' Panel

Hear the SDTX Bankruptcy Judges answer questions regarding motions, confirmation, contested pleadings, continuances, and more.

Moderator:

Brendon Singh, Tran, Singh, LLP

3rd Annual Southern District of Texas Consumer Bankruptcy Conference
January 15, 2026
1st Floor Jury Assembly Room – Bob Casey Courthouse, 515 Rusk Ave., Houston, Texas

Panelists:

Hon. Eduardo V. Rodriguez, Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

Hon. Marvin Isgur, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

Hon. Jeffrey P. Norman, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

Hon. Alfredo R. Pérez, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

5:15 p.m.

Chapter 7 Pro-bono Clinic

5:45 p.m.

End

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Co-Chairs

Chief Bankruptcy Judge Eduardo V. Rodriguez
U.S. Bankruptcy Court, McAllen, Texas

Kevin Maraist, Partner
Anderson, Lehrman, Barre & Maraist, LLP
Corpus Christi, Texas

Members

Alicia Barcomb
Houston, Texas

Sara Medellin
SDTX Clerk of Court Office
Houston, Texas

Catherine Curtis
Chapter 7 Trustee
McAllen, Texas

Chris Murray
Jones Murray, LLP
Houston, Texas

Allison Byman
Chapter 7 Trustee
Houston, Texas

David Peake
Chapter 13 Trustee
Houston, Texas

Rick Carter
Ciment Law Firm, PLLC
Katy, Texas

Cristina Rodriguez
Office of Tiffany Castro, Chapter 13 Trustee
Houston, Texas

Tiffany Castro
Chapter 13 Trustee
Houston, Texas

Brendon Singh
Tran Singh, LLP
Houston, Texas

Annie Catmull
O'ConnorWechsler PLLC
Houston, Texas

Yvonne Valdez
Chapter 13 Trustee
Corpus Christi, Texas

**3rd Annual Southern District of Texas Consumer Bankruptcy Conference
January 15, 2026**

1st Floor Jury Assembly Room – Bob Casey Courthouse, 515 Rusk Ave., Houston, Texas

Daniel Hu
Office of the United States Attorney
Houston, Texas

Steve Wilcox
Wilcox Law, PLLC
Arlington, Texas

Kenneth Keeling
Keeling Gutierrez Law Firm
Houston, Texas