

# GDLA Trial & Mediation Academy

August 20-23, 2025 • Callaway Gardens Lodge & Spa



**Georgia Defense  
Lawyers Association**  
Advancing the Civil Defense Bar®

## WEDNESDAY AUGUST 20

- 3:30 pm Registration Open
- 4:00 - 5:00 pm Preparing a Case for Trial and (Possible) Appeal:  
Georgia Court of Appeals Judge Jeff Davis
- 5:00 - 7:00 pm Nuts & Bolts of Mediation Followed by a Mock Mediation:  
Featuring BAY Mediation's Thomas Lymon  
and Henning Mediation's Tom Mazziotti
- 7:00 - 10:00 pm Reception/Dinner: Professionalism Keynote  
by Court of Appeals Judge Jeff Davis  
(Reception is 7:00 -8:00 pm)

## THURSDAY AUGUST 21

- 8:00 am Breakfast
- 8:30 - 10:00 am Jury Selection: Faculty Demo
- 10:00 - 10:15 am Break
- 10:15 am -11:30 Plaintiff Opening Statement: Faculty Demo
- 11:30 - 11:45 am Break & Get Boxed Lunch
- 11:45 am - 1:00 pm Working Lunch: Opening Statements
- 1:00 - 2:15 pm Breakout Session: Student performance of Opening
- 2:15 - 2:30 pm Break
- 2:30 - 3:15 pm Party & Lay Witness Examinations: Faculty Demo
- 3:15 - 4:00 pm Working Break: Party & Lay Witness
- 4:00 - 5:30 pm Breakout Session: Student performance of  
direct and cross of parties and lay witnesses

6:00 - 8:30 pm

Hospitality Suite Reception/Dinner: Pizza Provided

## FRIDAY

## AUGUST 22

- 8:30 am Breakfast
- 9:00 - 10:00 am Consolidated Pretrial Order: Faculty Discussion
- 10:00 am - noon Faculty Demonstration: Expert Plaintiff  
Faculty Demo Defendant
- 12:00 - 12:15 pm Break & Get Boxed Lunch
- 12:15 - 1:30 pm Working Lunch  
Work on Cross- Examinations
- 1:30 - 3:30 pm Breakout Session: Student Demonstration of Direct  
and Cross-Examination of Experts
- 3:30 - 3:45 pm Break
- 3:45 - 5:15 pm Closing Argument: Faculty Discussion and  
Faculty Demo
- 5:15 - 6:15 pm Hospitality Suite Reception
- 6:15 pm Dinner on Your Own

## SATURDAY

## AUGUST 23

- 8:00 am Breakfast
- 8:30 - 10:00 am Closing Argument Breakout Session:  
Student performance of a closing statement
- 10:00 am -noon Ethics Discussion and Awards Presentation
- 12:00 pm Adjourn

## FACULTY

**Anne D. Gower**, Academy Chair, Gower Wooten & Darneille, Atlanta  
**Brannon J. Arnold**, Academy Vice-Chair, Weinberg Wheeler Hudgins Gunn & Dial, Atlanta

**Jerry A. Buchanan**, Buchanan Law Firm, Atlanta  
**Douglas K. Burrell**, Chartwell Law, Atlanta  
**William T. "Bill" Casey**, Swift Currie McGhee & Hiers, Atlanta

**Matthew G. Moffett**, Gray Rust St. Amand Moffett & Brieske, Atlanta  
**Dallas Roper**, Georgia Farm Bureau Insurance Companies, Macon  
**Richard H. "Dick" Willis**, William Mullens, Columbia, SC

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