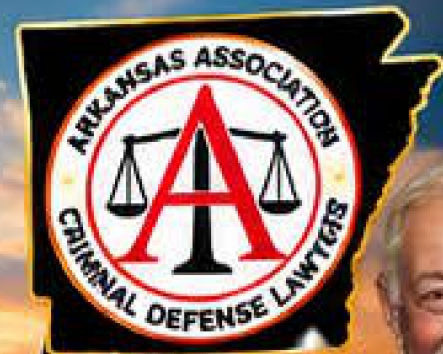




ARKANSAS ASSOCIATION OF
CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS
PRESENTS

2026 DEATH PENALTY CLE

The Human Choice:

JUSTICE, MERCY & HOPE

REAL PEOPLE. REAL STORIES. A MORE JUST TOMORROW.

Mark Geragos
Los Angeles, CA

Sister Helen Prejean
New Orleans, LA

JUSTICE
STILL
MATTERS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026

- 9:00 – 10:30** Capital Voir Dire: The First Battle for Life
William O. "Bill" James, Jr. | Little Rock, AR
- 10:45 – 12:15** Cruel and Unusual: The 8th Amendment
in Capital Litigation
"Secrets of the Killing State"
Corinna Barrett Lain | Richmond, VA
- 1:30 – 2:45** The Woman Behind the Monster
"Maternal Instinct": A Defense View of Taylor Parker
Jeff Harrelson | Texarkana, AR
- 3:00 – 4:30** From Death Row to New Evidence –
Did They Get It Wrong "Scott Peterson Case"?
Mark Geragos | Los Angeles, CA
- 5:00 – 7:00** **Reception – Meet & Greet & Book Signing**
Food | Drinks | Conversation | Networking

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026

- 9:00 – 10:00** Solution to Violence
Scarlett Lewis | Newtown/Easton, CT
- 10:15 – 12:15** The Last Walk: Life, Death and Dignity
Sister Helen Prejean | New Orleans, LA



- 1:30 – 3:30**
Lawyerin' – The Ugliest Profession –
How to Avoid Burnout / Flameout
Mike Moore and Bill Putman

**9 HOURS CLE
+ 2 BONUS ETHICS HOURS**

Approved by the Supreme Court of Arkansas
Continuing Legal Education Board

RECEPTION & BOOK SIGNING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026
5:00 – 7:00 PM

The Graduate by Hilton
Fayetteville

MEET & GREET • BOOK SIGNING
FOOD • DRINKS • CONVERSATION
NETWORKING

All are welcome!

HOTEL INFORMATION The Graduate by Hilton FAYETTEVILLE



70 N. East Ave. | Fayetteville, AR 72701
(479) 442-3888 | (479) 442-5555
for AACDL attendees.

BOOK YOUR STAY

**REGISTER ONLINE
AT AACDL.COM**

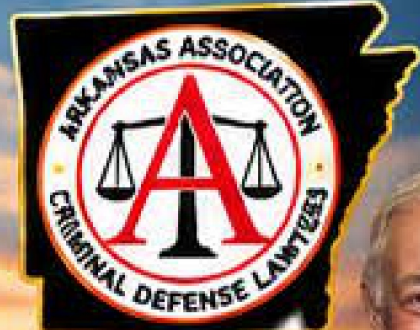


REGISTRATION FEES

PAY AT THE DOOR WILL BE AVAILABLE

Charter Member	\$250.00	_____
PD / Sustaining Members	\$300.00	_____
Regular Members	\$350.00	_____
Non-Members	\$400.00	_____
Mitigation / Investigators	\$150.00	_____
Law Students	\$ 75.00	_____

*Connect.
Inspire.
Empower.*



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New Orleans, LA

OUR SPEAKERS

William O. "Bill" James, Jr. | Little Rock, Arkansas

William O. "Bill" James, Jr. is a leading Arkansas criminal defense attorney and co-founder of the James Law Firm in Little Rock. For more than three decades, he has represented clients in complex criminal defense, white-collar crime, appellate, and high-profile felony matters throughout Arkansas. He is admitted to practice before Arkansas state courts, the United States Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, and federal district courts in Arkansas. James has held numerous leadership positions in the legal profession, including serving as President of the Arkansas Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and President of the Pulaski County Bar Association.

Corinna Barrett Lain | Richmond, Virginia

Corinna Barrett Lain is the George E. Allen Chair in Law at the University of Richmond School of Law and one of the nation's foremost scholars on the death penalty, criminal justice, and Supreme Court decision-making. A former prosecutor, Army sergeant, and appellate law clerk, she joined the University of Richmond faculty in 2001. Her scholarship has appeared in many of the nation's most prestigious law journals, and she is a frequent national and international speaker on capital punishment and legal reform. She is also the author of *Secrets of the Killing State: The Untold Story of Lethal Injection*.

Jeffrey S. "Jeff" Harrelson | Texarkana, Texas

Jeffrey S. Harrelson is a veteran criminal defense and appellate attorney serving clients throughout Texas and Arkansas. A graduate of the University of Arkansas School of Law, he has nearly three decades of experience defending individuals in state and federal courts. Harrelson is admitted to practice in Texas, Arkansas, the United States Supreme Court, and multiple federal appellate and district courts. He is known for his trial advocacy, appellate work, and commitment to protecting constitutional rights.

Mark J. Geragos | Los Angeles, California

Mark J. Geragos is one of the most prominent trial attorneys in the United States and principal of Geragos & Geragos in Los Angeles. He has successfully represented clients in nationally significant criminal and civil litigation matters and has earned a reputation for handling high-profile, complex cases. His practice includes criminal defense, civil litigation, class actions, civil rights cases, and corporate disputes.

Scarlett Lewis | Newtown/Easton, Connecticut

Scarlett Lewis is a nationally recognized author, speaker, and founder of the Jesse Lewis Choose Love Movement. Following the loss of her son, Jesse Lewis, in the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy, she dedicated her life to advancing social-emotional learning, character education, and violence prevention. Through her work, Lewis has reached schools, organizations, and communities across the United States and internationally, promoting resilience, courage, gratitude, forgiveness, and compassion.

Sister Helen Prejean, C.S.J. | New Orleans, Louisiana

Sister Helen Prejean is an internationally acclaimed Catholic religious sister, author, educator, and human rights advocate. She is best known for her groundbreaking work opposing the death penalty and for her bestselling book *Dead Man Walking*, which brought global attention to issues surrounding capital punishment and criminal justice reform. Her advocacy has influenced public policy, religious institutions, and legal reform efforts worldwide.



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