



**TEX-ABOTA**  
The Texas Chapters of ABOTA

## **2023 Santa Fe Speakers**



**Hon. Carl Barbier, Hon. Sally Shushan, and Pat Juneau - Louisiana**

### **Deepwater Horizon: Behind the Curtain**

Judge Barbier was the federal judge who tried the Deep Water Horizon Case against BP. Sally Shushan was the magistrate who handled discovery and Pat Juneau was the special master responsible for distributing the \$20.8 billion settlement. Their presentation, "Deepwater Horizon: Behind the Curtain" is a fascinating insider discussion of what went on behind the scenes of the largest environmental case in U.S. history.



**Steve Quattlebaum – Arkansas**

### **National ABOTA's Fight for the Civility in American Courts**

Steve is the National President of ABOTA. Steve will tell us about the great job he is doing and why we are lucky to have him.



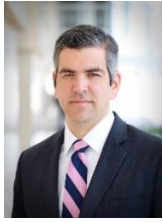
**Bruce Broillet - Los Angeles, CA**

### **Why a Nashville Jury Awarded Erin A. Andrews a \$55 Million Verdict**

Bruce represented ESPN sportscaster Erin Andrews in a law suit against Marriott. The jury awarded her \$55 million for Marriott's lack of security that allowed a stalker to secretly record her and release a video showing her naked during a hotel stay.



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**Chris Hamilton & Ray Khirallah – Dallas**  
**Divide and Conquer: Anatomy of a Billion Dollar Trial Team**

Chris and Ray represented the family of an elderly woman who was murdered by a Spectrum repairman. The jury awarded a combined \$7.37 billion verdict – including \$7 billion in punitive damages.



**Mark Richards – Wisconsin**  
**Kyle Rittenhouse the Untold Story: Convincing a Jury to Acquit When He is Already Convicted in the Media**

Mark successfully defended 17-year-old Kyle Rittenhouse who shot three men, two fatally, during a protest in Kenosha, Wisconsin, following the murder of George Floyd. In a trial that captivated the nation, Rittenhouse was found not guilty of all charges after he testified that he acted in self-defense.



**Guy Choate & David Chamberlain - San Angelo & Austin**  
**The 89<sup>th</sup> Session of the Texas Legislature: What Civil Trial Lawyers Need to Know**

Guy is a former president of TTLA and David a past president of TADC. They will give their annual update on the latest Texas Legislative session. Their presentation will either be a Laurel & Hardy comedy act or a Greek Tragedy.





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**Hon. Richard Gergel – South Carolina**  
**Unexampled Courage**

Federal Judge Gergel has written a book, *Unexampled Courage*, that details the impact of a southern sheriff's blinding of a decorated African American soldier coming home from World War II. This brutal, unprovoked attack led to the racial awakening of President Truman and the integration of the U.S. military. Later, an all-white jury's refusal to convict the sheriff led to the changing of America's civil rights history and eventually to the U. S. Supreme Court's decision in *Brown vs. Board of Education*.

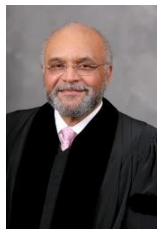
Incidentally, Judge Gergel presided over the trial of Dylann Roof, the Neo-Nazi who murdered 9 African American worshipers in a Charleston Church.



**Pierce O'Donnell - formerly of LA now of Austin**  
**Hey Buddy, Can You Spare a Bitcoin?**

Pierce represented Michael Terpin, a crypto currency pioneer, in a law suit against AT&T. The company's porous security let crypto pirates steal \$23 million from Terpin. The "pirate mastermind" was 15 years old.

P.S. - In his California days, Pierce represented Faye Dunaway, Angelina Jolie, Forrest Gump, and James Bond. He currently represents Tom Cruise.



**Hon. Herbert Phipps - Georgia**  
**Where are the Lawyers?**

After a long and courageous career as a pioneer civil rights lawyer in the South, Judge Phipps served as one of the first African Americans on the Georgia Court of Appeals. As a student at Morehouse College in Atlanta, he was incarcerated next to Martin Luther King, Jr. in Albany, Georgia.



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**Hon. Maya Guerra Gamble – Austin**  
**Judging & Trying a High Profile Case**

Judge Gamble is the Travis County District Judge who presided over the trial where a jury awarded two Sandy Hook parents over \$49 million against Alex Jones for spreading a conspiracy theory that the shooting was a hoax. Jones has vowed on his national show that having him in her courtroom would be Gamble's "Waterloo." It turned out to be his.



**Richard Mithoff & Rusty Hardin - Kathy Snapka –**  
**Houston & Corpus Christi**  
**Unlocking the Secrets of the Practice of Law**

This year Kathy Snapka will interview these two young, inexperienced lawyers to get their take on the practice of law.

