

TRAVEL APPROVAL FORM

Department: District Clerk

Event Name: TAC Legislative Conference

Location: Fairmont Austin Hotel

Event Dates: August 28, 2024 - August 30, 2024

Purpose: Required Continuing Education/Certification
 Job Training
 Other: Conference / Training

Name of Attendees:

David Lloyd Christopher Taylor

Court Decision:
This section to be completed by County Judge's Office



June 24, 2024

Required Documents Checklist:

**** Same-Day Travel - Commissioners Court Approval is not required ****


Overnight Travel

- Travel Approval Form
- Registration Information or Confirmation
- Itinerary, Agenda, or Breakdown
- Hotel Information, Confirmation, or Hotel Reservation Request Form

For Out of State Travel, please also include:

- Cost Estimation Breakdown for Trip with Airfare, Rental Car, Meals, Hotel, Etc.
- Narrative as to why the Out of State Travel is necessary

Signature of Elected Official/Department Head:



Archived: Tuesday, June 11, 2024 9:05:47 AM
From: do-not-reply@county.org
Sent: Monday, June 10, 2024 2:27:30 PM
To: [Chris Taylor](#)
Subject: Confirmation
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Johnson County email system.
Use care when opening links or attachments. Report suspicious emails.

Dear Mr. Christopher Taylor,

Thank you for your recent online submission. Here are confirmation details for your records.

Order Number: 261080

Order Date: Jun 10, 2024 2:25 PM

Bill To: Mr. Christopher Taylor

Order Total: 550.00

Payment Method: You will be billed for the balance due - Purchase Order Number .


Item	Price	Qty	Total
2024 Legislative Conference - Mr. Christopher Taylor <i>When:</i> Aug 28, 2024 - Aug 30, 2024 <i>Where:</i> Fairmont Austin Hotel 101 Red River St. Austin, TX 78701 United States <i>Registration option:</i> Aug 26, 2024 - In-Person County Registration	275.00	1	275.00
2024 Legislative Conference - Hon. David Lloyd <i>When:</i> Aug 28, 2024 - Aug 30, 2024 <i>Where:</i> Fairmont Austin Hotel 101 Red River St. Austin, TX 78701 United States <i>Registration option:</i> Aug 26, 2024 - In-Person County Registration	275.00	1	275.00
	Item Total		550.00
	Item Grand Total		550.00
	Transaction Grand Total		550.00

You may review your registration and event information at any time on our website by logging into your [Member Portal](#).


Additional information will be emailed to you soon. If you have any questions, please contact Education



TAC Legislative Conference

 August 28, 2024 - August 30, 2024 multi-day

 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM

 Fairmont Austin Hotel
101 Red River St.
Austin, TX 78701

 Contact Deanna Auert or Rachel Kucera at (800) 456-5974.

[Contact Us](#)

Registration

AGENDA

Wednesday, Aug. 28

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.: Registration and Information Desk Hours

Level 5 Foyer

8 - 9 a.m.: TAC Board of Directors Breakfast

9 a.m. - noon: TAC Board of Directors Meeting

Noon - 1 p.m.: TAC Board of Directors Lunch

Noon - 2 p.m.: Meet and Greet with Exhibitors

Congressional Ballroom, Level 3

Noon - 2 p.m.: Access Event Platform and Information Desk

(live online only)

12:45 - 1:45 p.m.: Private Meeting: Core Legislative Group Networking and Training

Manchester EE, Level 5

Before the general session, Core Legislative Group members will have an opportunity to look at successes and the hard work CLG members did during the legislative session. A panel of CLG members will be discussing their experiences, from preparation to office visits and testifying in a hearing. This event is for

current Core Legislative Group members. However, if you would like to attend, please register for the Core Legislative Group at the CLG booth on the fifth floor.

12:45 - 1:45 p.m.: Preconference Session: It's the Right Time for the Right Partner

Manchester GG, Level 5

Speakers: David Bazzel, Product Specialist, Nationwide

David S. Belnick, Endorsement Partner Director, Nationwide

Employers are seeing the impact of delayed or cancelled retirements, but how can you help workers get more confident in retirement? We asked, and these features would help increase confidence in their retirement plans:

- 55% said guaranteed income
 - 51% said protection from market volatility
-

2 - 4:30 p.m.: Opening General Session

Manchester Ballroom, Level 5

Welcome

Presiding: Hon. Tim Addison, Yoakum County Commissioner and President, Texas Association of Counties

Hon. Susan M. Redford, Executive Director, Texas Association of Counties

Legislative Overview

Speaker: Caroline Love, Director of Legislative Services, TAC

4:30 - 6 p.m.: Exhibit Hall Welcome Reception

Congressional Ballroom, Level 3

Sponsored by: Traylor & Associates

5 - 6 p.m.: New Official Networking Event

Manchester GG, Level 5

Were you elected or appointed after Aug. 30, 2023? If yes, you are invited to attend our New Official Networking event. Preregistration is required.

5 - 6 p.m.: Exclusive Meetings

If your legislator is here, you would have been notified before the conference and will find your invitation inside your name badge.



TAC Legislative Conference

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10:00 AM - 10:30 AM

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Registration

AGENDA

Thursday, Aug. 29

7 a.m. - 5 p.m.: Registration and Information Desk Hours

Level 5 Foyer

7 - 7:50 a.m.: Breakfast

Palm Park, Level 7

7 - 8 a.m.: Access Event Platform and Information Desk

(live online only)

8 - 9:05 a.m.: Legislative Discussion Sessions (1-5)

8 - 9:05 a.m.: Navigating Long-Term Emergency Management Response and Recovery: Lessons From Texas Counties

Track
1

Moderator: Elizabeth Choate, Legislative Consultant - Treasurers' Association, TAC

Speakers: Heather Lagrone, Senior Deputy Director, Texas General Land Office

Hon. Lisa Johnson, Hemphill County Judge

From wildfires and hurricanes to floods and tornadoes, Texas counties face diverse disaster challenges. Effective long-term planning is essential to building resilient communities and safeguarding public safety. Our panelists will share practical strategies, best practices and lessons learned from managing emergency response and recovery operations in the aftermath of disasters. Topics include working with response

agencies, available funding streams, reimbursement mechanisms, debris, donation management and disaster procurement to support ongoing recovery efforts.

8 - 9:05 a.m.: Congress and Counties: Engagement Drives Results

Track
2

Moderator: Pete Winckler, Legislative Consultant - Auditors' Association, TAC

Speakers: Matthew D. Chase, Executive Director, National Association of Counties (NACo)

Hon. J.D. Clark, Wise County Judge, 2nd Vice President, NACo

The American Rescue Plan Act marked a historic win for counties. Congress sent \$65 billion in direct aid to counties, a powerful demonstration of its confidence that locally elected and appointed officials best know the needs of their communities. Congress' trust in county officials results from the relationships you have built in partnership with TAC and the National Association of Counties. Join us for a discussion on leveraging this success as Congress takes up reauthorization of the Farm Bill, enacts the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and considers additional investments and competitive grants.

8 - 9:05 a.m.: Truth in Taxation: What Your County Needs to Know

Track
3

Moderator: Caroline Love, Director of Legislative Services, TAC

Speakers: Hon. Larry Gaddes, Williamson County Tax Assessor-Collector

Brent South, Chief Appraiser, Hunt County Appraisal District

Truth in taxation requires local taxing units to make taxpayers aware of tax rate proposals and affords them the opportunity to limit tax increases. Exactly how does that requirement come together? Join us as we explore how the dynamics of truth in taxation affect your county.

8 - 9:05 a.m.: Safeguarding Our Courts: Strategies for Protecting Judges, Staff and the Public

Track
4

Moderator: Kelsey Bernstein, Legislative Consultant – Justices of the Peace and Constables Association and Core Legislative Group Coordinator, TAC

Speakers: Hon. Holly Williamson, Harris County Justice of the Peace

Hon. Ben Zeller, Victoria County Judge

Hector Gomez, Court Security Director, Texas Office of Court Administration

Ensuring the safety of our courts is a top priority for all counties. Join us for an insightful discussion on the crucial issue of judicial security. Our expert panel will explore the delicate balance between enhancing security measures and maintaining public access, all while ensuring the safety of judges and staff members. Don't miss this important conversation.

8 - 9:05 a.m.: Senate Bill 22: Audits, Applications and Next Steps

Track
5

Moderator: Katy Estrada, Associate Director of Legislative Services and Legislative Consultant - County Judges and Commissioners Association, TAC

Speaker: Russell Gallahan, Manager, Local Government & Transparency, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

With the first round of audits for the state's new rural law enforcement grant program underway and the next application process about to start, come to our roundtable discussion where we'll address your lingering questions about Senate Bill 22 and clarify what to expect moving forward.

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.: Exhibit Hall Hours

Congressional Ballroom, Level 3
Open during lunch, noon-1:30 p.m.

9:05 - 9:30 a.m.: Break With Exhibitors

Congressional Ballroom, Level 3

9:30 - 10:35 a.m.: Legislative Discussion Sessions (repeat 1-5)

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10:35 - 10:55 a.m.: Break With Exhibitors

Congressional Ballroom, Level 3

10:55 a.m. - noon: Legislative Discussion Sessions (repeat 6-10)

10:55 a.m. - noon: Emergency Preparedness and Safety in the Polling Place

Track
1

Moderator: Nanette Forbes, Legislative Consultant – County & District Clerks' Association, TAC

Speakers: Christina Adkins, Director of Elections, Texas Secretary of State's Office

Jennifer Doinoff, Hays County Elections Administrator

Hon. Heather Hawthorne, Chambers County Clerk

Hon. Laura Rogers, Sherman County/District Clerk

Hon. Brian Hawthorne, Chambers County Sheriff

Mike Jones, Hays County Emergency Management

Are counties prepared to ensure voter safety and manage emergencies at polling places? As the cost of election administration rises due to recent legislation, will counties have future funding options available? Our distinguished panel will explore these topics and more.

10:55 a.m. - noon: Managing First Amendment Audits: Know Your Rights and Responsibilities

Track
2

Moderator: Caroline Love, Director of Legislative Services, TAC

Speaker: Thomas Keress, Law Enforcement & Simulator Consultants Supervisor, TAC

Do you know what to do if someone enters your county office declaring they are conducting a constitutional or First Amendment audit and begins recording video and making demands of you and your staff? Attend this session to understand your rights and how to handle these situations responsibly and effectively.

10:55 a.m. - noon: Grant Funding for Texas Counties: Maximizing Benefits, Minimizing Burdens

Track
3

Moderator: Zelma Smith, Financial Analyst, TAC

Speakers: Aimee Snoddy, Executive Director, Public Safety Office at Office of Texas Governor Greg Abbott

Dr. Kelty Garbee, Executive Director, Texas Rural Funders

Robin Knipling, Grant Administrator, Victoria County

Explore the ins and outs of pursuing and accepting grant funds for Texas counties. We'll discuss the value of grants for initiatives such as mental health deputies, law enforcement equipment and mandated services like indigent defense while considering the potential strain that federal and state grant standards, administrative requirements and match obligations can place on county budgets and resources.

10:55 a.m. - noon: Blueprint for Progress: Setting County Priorities for Texas' Behavioral Health System

Track
4

Moderator: Kelsey Bernstein, Legislative Consultant – Justices of the Peace and Constables Association and Core Legislative Group Coordinator, TAC

Speakers: Kristi Taylor, Executive Director, Texas Judicial Commission on Mental Health

Lee Johnson, Executive Director, Texas Council of Community Centers

Join us for a session exploring how counties have used the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) to assess resources, identify service gaps and engage stakeholders in addressing local behavioral health needs. Learn about the support provided by the Texas Judicial Commission on Mental Health, including SIM mapping tools, the County Mental Health Law Plan pilot program and various training opportunities available to counties. Discover how these initiatives can transform behavioral health services in your community.

10:55 a.m. - noon: It's Happening: The Use of AI in County Government

Track
5

Moderator: Katy Estrada, Associate Director of Legislative Services and Legislative Consultant - County Judges and Commissioners Association, TAC

Speakers: Matthew D. Chase, Executive Director, National Association of Counties (NACo)

Artificial Intelligence and emerging technologies are changing faster than governments can adapt. Both public entities and private businesses are at a crossroads between innovative use of technology and safeguarding themselves against unforeseen risks. Join us for a robust discussion on the intersection of AI and county government and what counties need to consider as they navigate this changing technology landscape.

Noon - 1:30 p.m.: Networking Lunch

Palm Park, Level 7

Noon - 1:30 p.m.: Exclusive Meetings

If your legislator is here, you would have been notified before the conference and will find your invitation inside your name badge.

1:30 - 2:35 p.m.: Legislative Discussion Sessions (repeat 6-10)

1:30 - 2:35 p.m.: Emergency Preparedness and Safety in the Polling Place

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Robin Knipling, Grant Administrator, Victoria County

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Speakers: Kristi Taylor, Executive Director, Texas Judicial Commission on Mental Health

Lee Johnson, Executive Director, Texas Council of Community Centers

Brett Bray, Blanco County Judge

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public entities and private businesses are at a crossroads between innovative use of technology and safeguarding themselves against unforeseen risks. Join us for a robust discussion on the intersection of AI and county government and what counties need to consider as they navigate this changing technology landscape.

2:35 - 3 p.m.: Ice Cream Social Break With Exhibitors

Congressional Ballroom, Level 3

3 - 4:30 p.m.: Meeting of County Affiliate Organizations

Affiliate organizations host a 1.5-hour meeting to discuss legislative issues or association business during the conference.

4:30 - 6 p.m.: Legislative Reception

This social event is an opportunity to celebrate all county officials who volunteer their time and expertise to advocate on behalf of counties. Your efforts during the legislative session are critical to the success of protecting local government. Thank you for your efforts!

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[\(https://twitter.com/TexasCounties\)](https://twitter.com/TexasCounties)



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 Fairmont Austin Hotel
101 Red River St.
Austin, TX 78701

 Contact Deanna Auert or Rachel Kucera at (800) 456-5974.

[Contact Us](#)

Registration

AGENDA

Friday, Aug. 30

8 - 10:30 a.m.: Registration and Information Desk

Level 5 Foyer

8 - 9 a.m.: Access Event Platform and Information Desk

(live online only)

8:30 - 9 a.m.: Breakfast

Manchester Ballroom, Level 5

9 - 10:30 a.m.: Closing General Session - Border Barriers

Manchester Ballroom, Level 5

Welcome and Introductions

Presiding: Hon. Cindy Yeatts, Denton County Treasurer and President-Elect, Texas Association of Counties

Border Barriers

Moderator: Katy Estrada, Associate Director of Legislative Services and Legislative Consultant - County Judges and Commissioners Association, TAC

Speakers: Hon. David Stout, El Paso County Commissioner

Doug Keller, Legal Director, Lone Star Defenders

For decades, protecting the border has been a key political issue. The passage of Senate Bill 4 has now pushed counties to the forefront of the immigration conversation. In our closing session, we will discuss the

