



OCDLA's Spanish Language / Law and Diversity Program

February 15–20, 2009

Se Habla...La Paz Spanish Language School
La Paz, Baja California South, Mexico

Deadlines Extended

OCDLA's **Spanish Language, Law and Diversity Program** (to be held in La Paz, Baja, Mexico, **February 15–20, 2009**) is a tremendous **educational opportunity** that will help you better represent Hispanic clients. Understandably though, due to the economic uncertainty, we've heard from members who would like to attend but need a more flexible payment plan. Therefore, we have **extended the deposit deadline to November 30th**. More importantly, we've extended the **final payment deadline** from November 17th to **February 2, 2009**. You may spread payment for the program over the next three months in any manner that works for you.


New to the program this year — a **criminal defense lawyer from nearby Los Cabos** has been added to the faculty. Students will receive the added benefit of first-hand experience of how the Mexican justice system actually works, not just how it's supposed to work.

This week-long experience will:

- give you a better understanding of the distinctions between the Mexican and American justice systems and the expectations Mexican clients have when they are involved in the American justice system. We will also discuss adjustments Mexicans are making to the new constitutional amendments which are overhauling their system;
- help defense lawyers improve Spanish language skills needed to communicate legal concepts with Hispanic clients.

Each morning there will be two hours of grammar and two hours of legal presentations at the lovely Se Habla...La Paz Language School in downtown La Paz. Both the grammar and legal classes are tailored to the Spanish proficiency level of the individual student. The Director of Education does a very good job matching students and proficiency levels. The Spanish lessons are presented in small groups of 4 to 6 students and there is usually an hour or two of homework each day.

The legal presentations cover all facets of the justice system from arrest to adjudication. What is learned in the classroom will be supplemented with site visits to correctional facilities, courts, juvenile facilities or similar locations. There will be an opportunity to talk with judges, correctional officials, defense lawyers and others in the Mexican justice system. During the past two programs we have had the opportunity to talk with inmates inside the La Paz prison. That experience provides yet another perspective of the justice system. The Oregon State Bar has approved prior programs for **24 hours of CLE credit including diversity credit**. These are credits unlike any you have received before.



OCDLA is working with Tom Cronkrite at TravelPro to offer transportation and lodging packages (1-866-611-3785, tomtravel@comcast.net). There are **reasonably priced hotel lodging** options available and an incredibly **inexpensive "home stay"** option that includes lodging in a family residence plus two meals a day for about \$160 for seven nights. You can also arrange travel extensions on both the front and back end of the program to accommodate vacation plans or additional Spanish classes with Se Habla...La Paz (Se Habla offers a ten percent tuition discount for additional Spanish classes for participants and guests).

The \$1,395 tuition includes: orientation, five days of Spanish instruction and justice system lectures, helpful written material, mid-morning snacks, transportation to site visit locations and a group Mexican dinner on Thursday. The cost does not include airfare, the "home stay" option or hotel accommodations and other meals.

The 2007 and 2008 programs won rave reviews. The **educational benefits are significant** and you will come away with a much better understanding of the Mexican legal system, allowing you to better represent your Hispanic clients.

Enrollment is limited to 25 participants. To guarantee a spot, simply mail a **tuition deposit** check to OCDLA for **\$250 (refundable until November 30)** or call the OCDLA office and put the deposit on your credit card. The **balance of the tuition is due February 2, 2009.**

Give a call if you have any immediate questions. Visit <http://www.sehablalapaz.com/> to learn more about the school.