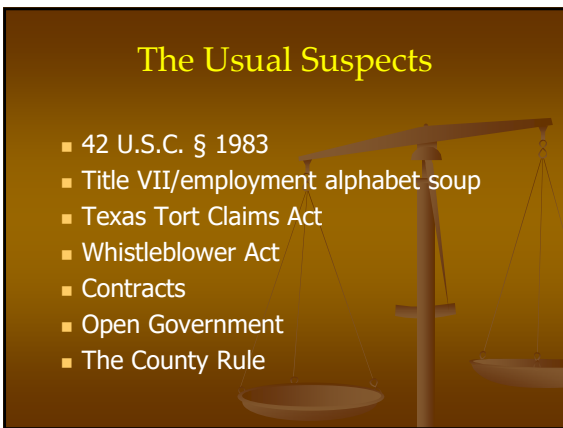
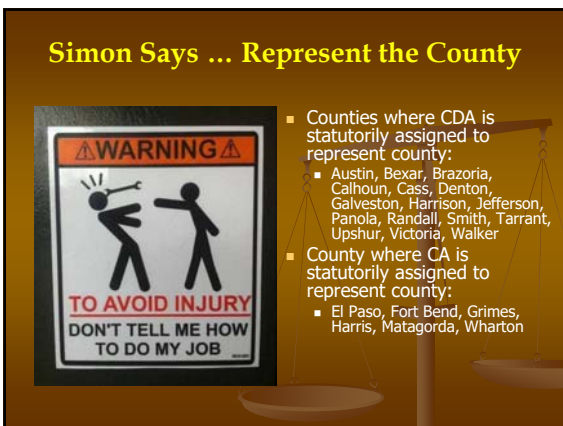


1

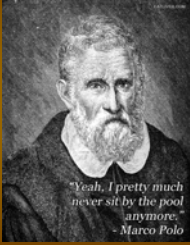


2



3

Who Else Is in the Rolodex?



- TEX. CONST. art. V, § 21
 - "The County Attorneys shall represent the State *in all cases* in the District and inferior courts in their respective counties; but if any county shall be included in a district in which there shall be a District Attorney, the respective duties of District Attorneys and County Attorneys shall in such counties be regulated by the Legislature."
- Duty defined by statute
 - No independent power to bring suit

4

What If We're Not on the List?




- General Rule: No civil requirement
- Says Who?
 - SCOTex, that's who
- County may contract
 - Beware of chapter 46, Gov't Code

5

Let Your Assets Work for You

- Section 157.901, Local Gov't Code
 - NOTE: criminal charges or conflict may require outside counsel
- Section 41.007, Gov't Code
- Get to know CA/DA
- Notify insurers IMMEDIATELY



6

Policies: vaccination for your county

- Discrimination/harassment
- Workers compensation
- FLSA
- FMLA
- USERRA
- Grievance/appeal process
- Police/jail
- County regulations
- Road & Bridge
- PIA
- Computer/Internet use
- Vehicle Use



7


Put It Where You Can Find It (And Know Where That Is)



- Centralize, centralize, centralize
- Plan for what you'll need
 - Insurance policies
 - Involved official/employee list
 - EVERY document
 - Policies, regulations, contracts
 - Photographs/videos
 - Accident reports/witness statements

8

Investigation: It's More Than Just The "I" in "CSI"



- Plan for Perry Mason
- Go all out ... with guidance
- Loose lips sink ships

9

Just Who, Exactly, Does This Well-Dressed Person Represent?

- Understand who the client is
- Help (it's not just a Beatles song)
- Think James Bond



10

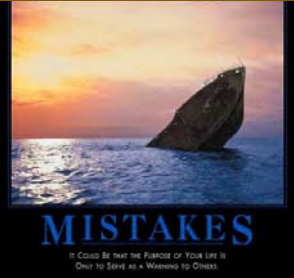
When Is It Safe To Let Warring County Factions Have At Each Other?



- Keep it in the hamper
- Funny is relative
- Diagnose to treat
- Sound bites bite
- Liaison: do it even if you can't spell it

11

What'cha Gonna Do When It All Goes South?



- Remember Jim Marshall
- Only the lawyer speaks
- Questions? Ask the lawyer

12

Settlement For Settlement's Sake


- Don't encourage nuisances
- Remember high school



13

Don't Automatically Fall In With The Crowd

- You can't believe everything you hear
- Not everyone gets sued for a good reason
- You're not your co-defendant's keeper
- Some folks are easy
- Facts, law, lawyer's advice should guide you



14

Pointers for avoiding the path of danger

- Contracts/policies aren't like undergarments
- PIA: Know it, consider it
- Counties wear hospital gowns



15

Be Careful Without Being Silly



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