SPEAKER BIOS

Melinda H. Barlow is Senior Counsel at the law firm of Kelly, Hart and Hallman LLP in Fort Worth, Texas where she represents a variety of governmental entities in litigation and employment matters. Prior to Kelly Hart, Ms. Barlow was the head of the Litigation and Employment section at the City of Arlington, Texas for over a decade. She has been designated as a Local Government Fellow by IMLA and is board certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the state bar of Texas. She obtained a Master of Public Administration in 2011, graduated from Baylor Law School in 1992 and Texas Tech University in 1988.

Roberta "Robin" Cross currently works as the Township Attorney for The Woodlands Township, Texas. She has over eighteen years’ experience working for local governments and was recognized as an IMLA Fellow in 2013. She has also worked as in-house counsel for a police labor union and for the EEOC, as a trial attorney. She is licensed to practice in Texas and admitted all of its federal courts, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. She has been Board-certified in Labor and Employment Law since 1992 by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. She was appointed as Vice-President of IMLA’s Personnel Section in the fall of 2015. She enjoys employment law, among other things, because "you can't make this stuff up."