

46<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ERNEST E. SMITH  
**OIL, GAS AND MINERAL LAW**



FUNDAMENTALS

March 26, 2020

INSTITUTE

March 27, 2020

Royal Sonesta Hotel  
Houston, Texas

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 **Both Available via Live Webcast**

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2020

# FUNDAMENTALS OF OIL, GAS AND MINERAL LAW

March 26, 2020 ■ Royal Sonesta Hotel Houston ■ Houston, Texas

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## THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 26, 2020

### Presiding Officer:

Ronnie Blackwell, Exxon Mobil Corporation, Spring, TX

### 7:30 a.m. Registration Opens

Includes continental breakfast.

### 8:30 a.m. Welcoming Remarks

### 8:40 a.m. .75 hr

#### Railroad Commission Regulation and Practice Update

Address the recent changes in regulation of the oil and gas, and pipeline industries in Texas, with emphasis on issues regarding permitting of producing wells, the transfer of inactive wells, saltwater disposal well permitting, good faith claim to title disputes, natural gas flaring exceptions, and pipeline regulations.

Glenn E. Johnson, Kelly Hart & Hallman LLP, Austin, TX

### 9:25 a.m. .75 hr

#### You Have an Oil Well, Now What?

Eddie Chiles once said, "If you don't have an oil well, get one." But what comes next? Is that revenue check correct? Are production volumes properly allocated? Bashed by an offset well? A review of issues encountered during the life of an oil or gas well.

Michael L. Wiggins, William M. Cobb & Associates, Inc., Dallas, TX

### 10:10 a.m. Break

### 10:25 a.m. .75 hr

#### Emerging and Re-emerging Issues in the Use of the Surface for Oil and Gas Operations

Explore the nature and extent of the implied easement to use the surface, and a framework for analyzing the accommodation doctrine. Also hear a survey of emerging and re-emerging issues involving conflicting uses of the surface estate, including saltwater disposal operations, hunting operations, and subsurface easements.

Austin W. Brister, McGinnis Lochridge, Houston, TX

### 11:10 a.m. .50 hr

#### The Uses and Abuses of the Division Order

Neither a contract nor a conveyance, a shield but not a sword.

Michael D. Jones, Jones Gill Porter Crawford & Crawford LLP, Houston, TX

### 11:40 a.m. Pick Up Lunch

Included in registration.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON

### Presiding Officer:

Ronnie Blackwell, Exxon Mobil Corporation, Spring, TX

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### LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

### 12:00 p.m. .75 hr ethics

#### Communication with Opposing Counsel and Landowners

Common law rules, the fields of tort and contract, as well as rules of professional ethics, govern a lawyer's or landman's negotiations on behalf of a client. By remaining mindful of these rules, including how the rules differ depending on whether you are negotiating with opposing counsel or a landowner, you can stay out of trouble and better serve your client.

Keith B. Hall, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center, Baton Rouge, LA

### 12:45 p.m. Break

### 1:00 p.m. .75 hr

#### Post-Production Royalty Disputes

With the ubiquity of custom oil and gas leases with complex royalty clauses, this presentation will discuss common post-production disputes that arise under these clauses and Texas courts' recent attempts to resolve those disputes.

Ricardo E. Morales, Person, Whitworth, Borchers & Morales, L.L.P., Laredo, TX

### 1:45 p.m. .50 hr

#### Introduction of Co-Tenancy Accounting

An overview of the rights and obligations of mineral cotenants with regard to one another where there is no agreement between them, with particular focus on how a developing cotenant must account to an unleased or uncommitted mineral cotenant who does not participate in the cost of operating.

William B. Burford, Kelly Hart & Hallman LLP, Midland, TX

### 2:15 p.m. .50 hr

#### Midstream 101: A Primer on Understanding Midstream Contracts and Identifying Key Issues

Explore midstream transactions and the contracts commonly utilized in the industry to gather, transport, and process oil and gas. Work through commercial and regulatory considerations and key issues when drafting midstream contracts.

Jesse S. Lotay, Jackson Walker LLP, Houston, TX

#### Co-Author:

Yenmi Tang, Jackson Walker, LLP, Houston, TX

### 2:45 p.m. Break

### 3:00 p.m. .75 hr

#### JOA Negotiation: Operator and Non-Operator Perspectives

Review key provisions of the American Association of Petroleum Landmen 610 Model Form Operating Agreement from both the operator's and non-operator's perspectives.

Scott Lansdown, XTO Energy Inc., Spring, TX  
Jeff Weems, Staff Weems LLP, Houston, TX

### 3:45 p.m. .75 hr

#### It Ain't Over Till It's Over: Maintaining a Lease During the Secondary Term Under a Variety of Lease Provisions

An overview of how a lease is perpetuated during the secondary term under a variety of lease provisions, such as continuous operations, shut-in, dry-hole, reworking, pooling, continuous development, force majeure, paying quantities, and other common savings clauses.

Paul B. Westbrook, Harris, Finley & Bogle, P.C., Fort Worth, TX

### 4:30 p.m. .50 hr

#### Marketing Contracts

A quick primer on practices for marketing crude oil and natural gas.

Thomasine Lowry Pantazis, ConocoPhillips Company, Houston, TX

### 5:00 p.m. Adjourn

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**FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 27, 2020**

**Presiding Officer:**

**Gregory C. Cox, EOG Resources, Inc.,  
Houston, TX**

**7:15 a.m. Registration Opens**

Includes continental breakfast.

**8:05 a.m. Welcoming Remarks**

**8:15 a.m. .75 hr ethics**

**Data Security Incident Response and Attorneys' Obligations**

Effective response to cybersecurity incidents is critical to managing and minimizing regulatory and litigation risks, while protecting your clients and your reputation. Explore developments in incident response, and hear practical guidance from multiple perspectives for managing risk while satisfying legal obligations when the inevitable breach occurs.

William R. Daugherty, Baker & Hostetler LLP,  
Houston, TX  
Andy Sawyer, Locke Lord LLP, Dallas, TX

**9:00 a.m. .50 hr**

**Case Law Update: Part One**

Owen L. Anderson, The University of Texas School of Law, Austin, TX

**9:30 a.m. .75 hr | .50 hr ethics**

**The Limits to Certainty in Title Examination; Bright Lines and Sharp Corners vs. Holistic and Harmonizing, and Those Pesky Fact Questions**

Identify the factual matters that affect or determine ownership but cannot be addressed by an examination of record title, and the presumptions regarding these facts that allow title examiners to render opinions. Analyze the effect on title examination of recent cases that reject "bright lines and sharp corners," magic words, mechanical rules and historic canons of construction in favor of a holistic and harmonizing approach to better discern the intent of the parties as expressed in the four corners of the conveyance.

Terry I. Cross, McClure & Cross LLP, Dallas, TX

**10:15 a.m. Break**

**10:30 a.m. .50 hr**

**Flaring Issues**

A survey of current gas flaring regulations, practices, and concerns in Texas.

Kelli Tiekken Kenney, McElroy, Sullivan, Miller & Weber, LLP, Austin, TX

**11:00 a.m. .75 hr**

**MSA Negotiations**

A mock negotiation of a master service agreement with particular attention paid to the insurance and indemnity provisions to ensure an effective risk allocation program.

John Gaitskill Almy, Liskow & Lewis, Houston, TX  
William W. Pugh III, Liskow & Lewis, Houston, TX

**11:45 a.m. Pick Up Lunch**

Included in registration.

**FRIDAY AFTERNOON**

**Presiding Officer:**

**Gregory C. Cox, EOG Resources, Inc.,  
Houston, TX**

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**LUNCHEON PRESENTATION**

**12:05 p.m. .50 hr**

**Recent Developments in Oil & Gas M&A**

Discussion of the latest developments in M&A transactions in the oil and gas industry, including an analysis of the current market, deal term trends and transaction structures, cases studies on recent deals and shareholder activism in the M&A context.

Marcel Hewamudalige, Evercore Partners Inc.,  
Houston, TX  
Sean T. Wheeler, Kirkland Ellis LLP, Houston, TX

**12:35 p.m. Break**

**12:50 p.m. .50 hr**

**Case Law Update: Part Two**

Owen L. Anderson, The University of Texas School of Law - Austin, TX

**1:20 p.m. .75 hr**

**Raiders of the Lost Ark (of the Covenant Running With the Land), And Other Hot Bankruptcy Issues**

Hear a discussion of hot issues and recent developments, including covenants running with the land.

Matthew Dudley Cavanaugh, Jackson Walker LLP,  
Houston, TX  
Elizabeth Freeman, Jackson Walker LLP, Houston, TX

**2:05 p.m. .50 hr**

**Outlook for Energy: A Perspective to 2040**

The Outlook for Energy is ExxonMobil's global view of energy demand and supply through 2040. It also highlights the dual challenge of providing affordable energy to support prosperity while reducing environmental impacts – including the risks of climate change. ExxonMobil uses the Outlook to help inform its long-term business strategies and investment plans. Energy is fundamental to modern life, and as the world's population approaches 9 billion people in 2040, we are challenged to improve living standards everywhere. Understanding the factors that drive the world's energy needs – and likely choices to meet those needs – is the mission of the Outlook. By sharing the Outlook with the public, ExxonMobil hopes to broaden that understanding. Energy matters to everyone, and we all play a role in shaping its future.

Douglas B. Neagli, ExxonMobil Risk Management,  
Dallas, TX

**2:35 p.m. Break**

2:45 p.m. .50 hr

**Relinquishment Act Lands, Leasing, and Development**

Discuss the unique legal issues that arise in conjunction with leasing and horizontal development of Relinquishment Act lands, with a focus on the Delaware Basin.

D. Davin McGinnis, Scott Douglass & McConnico LLP, Austin, TX

**Co-Author:**

Ross Sutherland, Scott Douglass & McConnico LLP, Austin, TX

3:15 p.m. .50 hr

**Split Estate Issues (Mineral, Wind, Solar and Water)**

Explore competing uses, common conflicts, and potential solutions.

Robert Matthew Park, Uhl, Fitzsimons, Jewett, Burton, Wolff & Rangel PLLC, San Antonio, TX

3:45 p.m. .75 hr

**Working Interest Disputes under AAPL 2015 Form 610 JOA**

Discuss whether the AAPL 2015 Form 610 JOA would result different outcomes in prior working interest dispute cases by identifying key areas where disputes have arisen in the past between working interest owners, comparing the JOA provisions from prior cases to the language in the 2015 Form, and explaining whether the result would be the same or different had the parties used the 2015 form. Also, learn about various disputes that can arise between working interest owners.

Michael C. Sanders, Sanders McGarvey, Houston, TX

4:30 p.m. .50 hr

**The Sand Paper: The Anatomy of Acquiring, Divesting, and Leasing Sand**

Sand has become the new gold in parts of Texas. Discuss the fundamental issues a lawyer must address when structuring an acquisition, a divestiture, or a lease of sand in Texas.

Reagan Marble, Jackson Walker LLP, San Antonio, TX

5:00 p.m. Adjourn

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*Includes Electronic Course Materials and Luncheon Presentation*

- Individual registration by Wednesday, March 18. . . . . \$375
- Individual registration after Wednesday, March 18. . . . . \$425

**Fundamentals Printed Binder** – Available Through Wednesday, March 18

*Conference registration includes Electronic Course Binder Download (PDF) in "Your Briefcase".*

- Printed Course Binder. . . . . \$37.89 (\$35\*)

**FUNDAMENTALS WEBCAST REGISTRATION**

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**Select Webcast Date**

- LIVE: Thursday, March 26, 2020 . . . . . \$325

**Fundamentals Registration Total** . . . . . \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Institute Registration**

*Includes Electronic Course Materials, Luncheon Presentation, and e-supplement sessions.*

- Individual registration by Wednesday, March 18. . . . . \$400
- Individual registration after Wednesday, March 18. . . . . \$450

**Institute Printed Binder** – Available Through Wednesday, March 18

*Conference registration includes Electronic Course Binder Download (PDF) in "Your Briefcase".*

- Printed Course Binder. . . . . \$37.89 (\$35\*)

**INSTITUTE WEBCAST REGISTRATION**

*Includes Electronic Course Binder Download (PDF) in "Your Briefcase"*

**Select Webcast Date**

- LIVE: Friday, March 27, 2020. . . . . \$350

**Institute Registration Total** . . . . . \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION SUBTOTAL** . . . . . \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**SAVE \$50 WHEN YOU REGISTER FOR BOTH THE FUNDAMENTALS AND THE INSTITUTE (LIVE, IN-PERSON CONFERENCE ONLY).** - \$50 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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- Electronic Post-Course Download (PDF) . . . . . \$135.31 (\$125\*)
- Printed Post-Course Binder. . . . . \$189.44 (\$175\*)

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**HOUSTON**

March 26–27, 2020

**CONFERENCE LOCATION**



**Royal Sonesta Hotel Houston**  
 2222 West Loop South  
 Houston, TX 77027-3502  
 713.627.7600

**Special Room Rate: \$172**  
 good through March 3, 2020  
 reference "UT Law Oil, Gas and Mineral Law"  
 (Subject to Availability)

**Parking:**  
 Self-Parking \$10 daily; \$16 overnight  
 Valet \$16 daily; \$25 overnight  
 (Subject to Change)

**KEY DATES**

**March 18, 2020**

*Last day to order a printed binder*

**March 18, 2020**

*Last day for early registration*  
 Add \$50 for registrations  
 received after this time

**March 20, 2020**

*Last day for full refund cancellation*

**March 23, 2020**

*Last day for partial refund cancellation*  
 \$50 processing fee applied

**March 26, 2020, 8:30 a.m., C.S.T.**  
*Fundamentals and webcast begin*

**March 27, 2020, 8:05 a.m., C.S.T.**  
*Institute and webcast begin*

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