

2011 Fundamentals of Oil, Gas and Mineral Law
April 7, 2011 • Hyatt Regency • Houston, TX
May 19, 2011 • Dallas

Thursday Morning, Apr. 7, 2011

Presiding Officer:

In Houston: **Aaron G. Carlson**, Houston, TX

7:30 am In Houston Only	Fundamentals Registration Opens Includes continental breakfast.
8:15 am In Houston Only	Welcoming Remarks
8:30 am In Houston Only 0.50 hr	So You Want to Drill Your Own Oil Well? A Hands-On Oil and Gas Drilling Primer An overview of the process of finding oil and gas, and bringing it to the surface. Frank N. Cusimano III, Chevron North America Exploration and Production Company - Houston, TX
9:00 am In Houston Only 0.75 hr	The Rule of Capture, Correlative Rights, and Principles of Conservation An examination of the effects of the Rule of Capture, which has led to extensive regulation of oil and gas drilling and production by state and federal agencies, as well as a discussion of well spacing, production limitations, pooling and unitization, and related environmental regulation. The procedures for establishing units under leases, by separate contract and through agency orders are outlined. Agency rules and regulations, rulemaking and adjudication procedures are described, as well as judicial review of agency actions, including the concepts of collateral attack, exhaustion of administrative remedies, primary jurisdiction, and standards of deference. Also discussed are the effects of conservation regulation on leases and term interests. Patrick H. Martin, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center - Baton Rouge, LA
9:45 am In Houston Only	Break
10:00 am In Houston Only 0.75 hr	Interests in Oil and Gas A look at the types, characteristics, classification, and ownership issues. Laura H. Burney, St. Mary's University School of Law - San Antonio, TX
10:45 am In Houston Only 1.00 hr	The Oil and Gas Lease, Part I: Classification, Scope of Grant, and Duration This presentation focuses on how an oil and gas lease is classified in law, and on the key clauses of the lease. Pooling and royalty clauses are covered in later sessions. Christopher Stewart Kulander, Haynes and Boone, LLP - Houston, TX

Thursday Afternoon, Apr. 7, 2011

Presiding Officer:

In Houston: **Aaron G. Carlson**, Houston, TX

In Houston Only	Luncheon Presentation
11:45 am In Houston Only	Pick up Box Lunch Included in conference registration.
12:00 pm In Houston Only 0.50 hr	Texas Title Examination Standards: Introduction and Practical Exercises A look at the use of Title Examination Standards to address common defects, exceptions, and errors found in the chain of title to land; plus the language of the standards, times when they are applicable, and the commentary of applicable law for each standard. Included in the presentation are some practical examination exercises using actual instruments pulled from public records. Allen D. Cummings, Law Offices of Allen D. Cummings - San Antonio, TX
12:30 pm In Houston Only	Break
12:45 pm In Houston Only 0.75 hr	The Oil and Gas Lease, Part II: The Royalty Clause in an Oil and Gas Lease In Texas, the calculation of the royalty obligation created under an oil and gas lease is determined by looking at the specific language contained in the royalty clause. This session focuses on some of the principal phrases used to describe such obligations and how the Texas courts have interpreted them, and takes a look at how that same language has been interpreted differently in other jurisdictions. Finally, the impact of division and transfer orders are analyzed to determine how such instruments may affect the royalty obligations contained in the lease. Patrick H. Martin, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center - Baton Rouge, LA
1:30 pm In Houston Only 0.75 hr	The Oil and Gas Lease, Part III: Implied Covenants An outline of the law of implied covenants, including duties imposed, standards applied, and remedies available. Elizabeth N. Miller, Scott, Douglass & McConnico, L.L.P. - Austin, TX
2:15 pm In Houston Only 0.75 hr	Voluntary Pooling and Unitization This session covers (1) the typical pooling clause in an oil and gas lease which allows the lessee to combine acreage under one lease with acreage underlying adjacent tracts, and (2) the voluntary unitization statute in Texas under which the Railroad Commission approves fieldwide units which may combine acreage from hundreds of different tracts and landowners for the purpose of second recovery or repressuring. Jacqueline L. Weaver, University of Houston Law Center - Houston, TX
3:00 pm In Houston Only	Break

3:15 pm In Houston Only 0.50 hr	The Oil and Gas Lease, Part IV: Other Clauses A review of other clauses in an oil and gas lease, including retained acreage, proportionate reduction, warranty, assignment, continuous operations, surface use clauses or riders, force majeure, shut-in gas royalty, subrogation, and offset clauses. J. Byron (Trace) Burton III, Uhl, Fitzsimons & Jewett, PLLC - San Antonio, TX
3:45 pm In Houston Only 1.00 hr	Oil and Gas Conveyancing This session describes the terms used to convey mineral and royalty interests and the issues that arise in drafting and interpreting these conveyances. Laura H. Burney, St. Mary's University School of Law - San Antonio, TX
4:45 pm In Houston Only 0.75 hr	The Joint Operating Agreement (JOA) An overview of the important components of a JOA, completion of and additions to the form JOA, and issues that arise in the application of the JOA provisions to everyday exploration and production activities. John S. Lowe, Southern Methodist University, Dedman School of Law - Dallas, TX
5:30 pm In Houston Only	Adjourn