

2015 Fundamentals of Oil, Gas and Mineral Law
March 26, 2015 • Royal Sonesta Hotel Houston • Houston, TX
March 26, 2015 • Live Webcast
April 23, 2015 • Dallas

Thursday Morning, Mar. 26, 2015

Presiding Officer:

Michael E. McElroy, McElroy, Sullivan, Miller, Weber & Olmstead L.L.P. - Austin, TX

7:30 am In Houston, Dallas Only	Registration Opens Includes continental breakfast.
8:20 am	Welcoming Remarks
8:30 am 0.50 hr	So You Want to Drill Your Own Oil Well? An Oil and Gas Drilling Primer An overview of the process of finding oil and gas and bringing it to the surface, as well as some of the needed agreements. Frank N. Cusimano III, Chevron North America Exploration and Production Company - Houston, TX
9:00 am 0.75 hr	The Rule of Capture, Correlative Rights and Principles of Conservation Examine the effects of the Rule of Capture, and discuss well spacing, production limitations, pooling and unitization and related environmental regulation. Agency rules and regulations, rule-making 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. Patrick H. Martin, Professor Emeritus, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center - Baton Rouge, LA
9:45 am	Break
10:00 am 0.75 hr	Interests in Oil and Gas An overview of the general types, characteristics and classifications of oil and gas interests. Christopher S. Kulander, South Texas College of Law - Houston, TX
10:45 am 1.00 hr	The Oil and Gas Lease, Part I: Classification, Scope of Grant and Duration An in-depth focus on how an oil and gas lease is classified in law and on the key clauses of the lease. Owen L. Anderson, The University of Oklahoma College of Law - Norman, OK
11:45 am In Houston, Dallas Only	Pick Up Lunch Included in registration.

Thursday Afternoon, Mar. 26, 2015

Presiding Officer:

Michael E. McElroy, McElroy, Sullivan, Miller, Weber & Olmstead L.L.P. - Austin, TX

LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

12:05 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Texas Title Examination Standards: Introduction and Practical Exercises</p> <p>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 are a few practical examination exercises using actual situations encountered in title examination.</p> <p>Allen D. Cummings, Law Offices of Allen D. Cummings - San Antonio, TX</p>
12:35 pm	<p>Break</p>
12:50 pm 0.75 hr	<p>The Oil and Gas Lease, Part II: The Royalty Clause in an Oil and Gas Lease</p> <p>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. Focus on some of the principal phrases used to describe such obligations and how the Texas courts have interpreted them, and take a look at how that same language has been interpreted differently in other jurisdictions. Analyze the impact of division and transfer orders to determine how such instruments may affect the royalty obligations contained in the lease.</p> <p>Bruce M. Kramer, Of Counsel and Maddox Professor of Law Emeritus, McGinnis Lochridge and Texas Tech University - Houston and Lubbock, TX</p>
1:35 pm 0.75 hr	<p>The Oil and Gas Lease, Part III: Implied Covenants</p> <p>An outline of the law of implied covenants, including duties imposed, standards applied and remedies available.</p> <p>Keith B. Hall, Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center - Baton Rouge, LA</p>
2:20 pm 0.50 hr	<p>The Oil and Gas Lease, Part IV: Other Clauses</p> <p>A review of other clauses in an oil and gas lease, including surface use clauses and riders, retained acreage and proportionate reduction clauses, and savings clauses such as continuous operations, dry hole, <i>force majeure</i> and shut-in gas royalty clauses.</p> <p>Thomas A. Daily, Daily & Woods, P.L.L.C. and University of Arkansas School of Law - Fort Smith and Fayetteville, AR</p>
2:50 pm	<p>Break</p>

3:00 pm 0.75 hr	<p>Voluntary Pooling and Unitization</p> <p>Coverage of 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, as well as the voluntary unitization statute in Texas under which the Railroad Commission approves field-wide units, which may combine acreage from hundreds of different tracts and landowners for the purpose of second recovery or repressuring.</p> <p>Carroll G. Martin, Scott, Douglass & McConnico, L.L.P. - Austin, TX</p>
3:45 pm 1.00 hr	<p>Oil and Gas Conveyancing</p> <p>Explore the terms used to convey mineral and royalty interests and the issues that arise in drafting and interpreting these conveyances.</p> <p>Laura H. Burney, St. Mary's University School of Law - San Antonio, TX</p>
4:45 pm 0.75 hr	<p>The Joint Operating Agreement (JOA)</p> <p>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 exploration and production activities.</p> <p>John S. Lowe, Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law - Dallas, TX</p>
5:30 pm	<p>Adjourn Fundamentals</p>