

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



FUNDAMENTALS

March 28, 2019

INSTITUTE

March 29, 2019

Royal Sonesta Hotel  
Houston, Texas

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 **Also Available via Live Webcast**

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2019

# FUNDAMENTALS OF OIL, GAS AND MINERAL LAW

March 28, 2019 ■ Royal Sonesta Hotel ■ Houston, Texas

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## THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 28, 2019

### Presiding Officer:

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

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

Includes continental breakfast.

### 8:20 a.m. Welcoming Remarks

### 8:30 a.m. .50 hr

#### So You Want to Drill Your Own Oil Well? An Oil and Gas Drilling Primer

Hear 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 a.m. .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. Hear a description of agency rules and regulations, rule-making and adjudication procedures, along with a judicial review of agency actions including the concepts of collateral attack, exhaustion of administrative remedies, primary jurisdiction, and standards of deference.

Patrick H. Martin, Louisiana State University Paul M.  
Hebert Law Center, Baton Rouge, LA

### 9:45 a.m. Break

### 10:00 a.m. 1.00 hr | .25 hr ethics

#### 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.

John Beckworth, The University of Texas School of  
Law, Austin, TX

#### Materials By:

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

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

#### Texas Title Examination Standards: Introduction and Practical Exercises

Take a look at the use of Title Examination Standards to address common defects, exceptions, and errors found in the chain of title to land. Explore the language of the standards, times when they are applicable, and the commentary of applicable law for each standard. Take part in a few practical examination exercises using actual situations encountered in title examination.

Allan D. Cummings, Attorney at Law, Austin, TX

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

Included in registration.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON

### Presiding Officer:

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

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### 12:05 p.m. .75 hr

#### Overview of Railroad Commission Regulations

Review the important Railroad Commission rules and the recent amendments to the rules.

Brian R. Sullivan, PE, McElroy, Sullivan, Miller &  
Weber, LLP, Austin, TX

### 12:50 p.m. Break

### 1:05 p.m. .75 hr | .25 hr ethics

#### 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. Royalty terms in the lease such as "market value at the well" or "amount realized" establish how the royalty payor must measure and calculate royalty, and what post production costs can be allocated to the lessor interest. Review some of the principal phrases used to describe such obligations and how the Texas courts have interpreted them, and examine how that same language has been interpreted differently in other jurisdictions. Also analyze the impact of division and transfer orders and royalty payment statutes on royalty obligations contained in the lease.

Tara Righetti, University of Wyoming College of Law,  
Laramie, WY

### 1:50 p.m. 1.00 hr | .25 hr ethics

#### Oil and Gas Conveyancing and Interests in Oil and Gas

Explore 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

### 2:50 p.m. .75 hr

#### The Oil and Gas Lease, Part III: Implied Covenants

Examine the law of implied covenants, including the duties imposed, elements necessary to establish a claim, and remedies and defenses available.

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

### 3:35 p.m. Break

### 3:45 p.m. .50 hr

#### Voluntary Pooling and Unitization

Review voluntary pooling as authorized in an oil and gas lease which allows the lessee to combine acreage under one lease with acreage underlying adjacent tracts. Also, explore the voluntary unitization statute in Texas under which the Railroad Commission approves field-wide units, which may combine acreage from numerous tracts and leases for the purpose of enhanced recovery or re-pressuring operations.

Carroll G. Martin, Scott Douglass & McConnico LLP,  
Austin, TX

### 4:15 p.m. .50 hr

#### The Oil and Gas Lease, Part IV: Other Clauses

Review 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, force majeure, and shut-in gas royalty clauses.

Thomas A. Daily, Daily & Woods, P.L.L.C., Fort Smith, AR

### 4:45 p.m. .75 hr

#### The Joint Operating Agreement (JOA)

Hear 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.

John S. Lowe, Southern Methodist University  
Dedman School of Law, Dallas, TX

### 5:30 p.m. Adjourn Fundamentals

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**FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 29, 2019**

**Presiding Officer:**

**Katy Pier Moore, Santoyo Moore  
Wehmeyer PC, San Antonio, TX**

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

Includes continental breakfast.

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

**8:15 a.m. 1.00 hr**

**Case Law Update**

Review recent decisions dealing with oil and gas leases, royalties, mineral conveyances, joint operating agreements, state regulation, and related topics.

Monika U. Ehrman, The University of Oklahoma  
College of Law, Norman, OK

**9:15 a.m. .50 hr**

**The Future of Oil and Gas Law: The Past is Prologue**

John S. Lowe, Southern Methodist University  
Dedman School of Law, Dallas, TX  
Patrick H. Martin, Louisiana State University Paul M.  
Hebert Law Center, Baton Rouge, LA

**9:45 a.m. .50 hr**

**Railroad Commission Update**

A review of recent regulatory changes and developments at the Railroad Commission of Texas, including new rules for surface commingling, new rules for overlapping proration units with depth severances, and new procedures and requirements for permitting disposal wells.

W. Timothy George, McGinnis Lochridge, Austin, TX

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

**10:30 a.m. .75 hr**

**Update on Surface Use Agreements and Disputes**

With the continuing expansion of the traditional and alternative energy sectors in Texas, surface use agreements must be carefully drafted in order to balance conflicting surface uses of the same property. Hear practical guidance for negotiating agreements and navigating disputes over shared use, including an update on recent cases affecting surface disputes.

F. Parks Brown, Uhl, Fitzsimons, Jewett, Burton &  
Wolff, PLLC, San Antonio, TX  
Dana B. Deaton, Uhl, Fitzsimons, Jewett, Burton &  
Wolff, PLLC, San Antonio, TX

**11:15 a.m. .50 hr**

**Exploring the Reach of TOAIA**

Discuss where the oilfield begins and ends under the Texas Oilfield Anti-Indemnity Act, including what are "well or mine services," indemnity agreements, and contractual issues.

Tom A. Donaho, Baker & Hostetler LLP, Houston, TX

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

Included in registration.

**FRIDAY AFTERNOON**

**Presiding Officer:**

**Katy Pier Moore, Santoyo Moore  
Wehmeyer PC, San Antonio, TX**

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

**Oil and Gas Flow Rate Measurement: It's Not That Simple**

Hear an overview of the ways oil and gas flow rates are measured in the field, both on land and offshore. Also see how errors in the measurement process can occur, the fiscal impact of such mistakes, and real-world examples of metering gone wrong.

Winsor (Chip) Letton, Letton Hall Group, Houston, TX

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

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

**Ready! Fire! Aim! "Subject to the PSA" Clause vs. Merger by Deed**

Discussion of two recent Texas opinions on the question of what effect, if any, a "subject to the PSA" clause in a closing assignment has on merger of the PSA terms in the event of conflicting terms. The answer may surprise you.

Brandon Durrett, Dykema Cox Smith, San Antonio, TX

**1:20 p.m. .50 hr**

**Allocation of Deal Risk after JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., v. Orca Assets GP LLC**

Negotiation of warranties, disclaimers and red flags! What does the decision in JPMorgan Chase Bank, NA v. Orca Assets GP LLC mean for allocating risk in future deals?

Jessica B. Pulliam, Baker Botts L.L.P., Dallas, TX

**1:50 p.m. .75 hr**

**Negotiating Oil & Gas Leases for Horizontal Drilling Projects in a Post-Vertical Well Paradigm - A Look At the Application of Selected Common Lease Provisions to Horizontal Well Operations**

Understanding the operational and economic context of oil and gas operations encourages more effective lease negotiations between the lessor and lessee, and can lead to collaboration instead of conflict. Failure to relate lease terms to operational reality can result in failed negotiations, stranded minerals, and permanent lost opportunity for all affected parties. Discuss operational and economic considerations in drilling horizontal wells and how selected lease provisions impact development decisions.

Michel E. Curry, Henry Resources LLC, Midland, TX

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

**2:45 p.m. .75 hr | .25 hr ethics**

**Traditional Oil and Gas Interests Financing**

Become reacquainted with, or learn about, some traditional methods of funding oilfield operations by use of farmins, farmouts, production payments, term royalties, carried interests, and similar transactions.

W. John English Jr., Baker & Hostetler LLP, Houston, TX  
David Michael Patton, Locke Lord LLP, Houston, TX

**3:30 p.m. .75 hr ethics**

**Practical Considerations in Arbitration**

Discuss the practical and ethical considerations involved in planning for and participating in arbitration.

David E. Harrell Jr., Locke Lord LLP, Houston, TX

**4:15 p.m. .75 hr ethics**

**Getting Over the Wall - Examining Title to Property in New Mexico - Can I, Should I, and Do I Need a Passport or License?**

Discuss the ethical issues and obligations faced by title lawyers new to New Mexico and those title lawyers not licensed to practice law in New Mexico, but desire to render title opinions on New Mexico mineral properties. Review ethical implications and the major title issues that are unique to New Mexico that may trip up a title examiner who is not accustomed to New Mexico laws and title issues arising in the state.

Jared A. Hembree, Hinkle Shanor LLP, Roswell, NM  
Gregory J. Nibert, Hinkle Shanor LLP, Roswell, NM

**5:00 p.m. Adjourn Institute**

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#### Select Registration Type

- Individual registration by March 20 ..... \$350
- Individual registration after March 20. .... \$400

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- Printed Course Binder ..... \$37.89  
Price includes 8.25% Sales Tax
- Printed Course Binder for tax exempt registrants ..... \$35  
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#### Select Webcast Date

- LIVE: Thursday, March 28, 2019 ..... \$300

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### INSTITUTE—OG19 – MARCH 29

Includes electronic course materials, Continental Breakfasts, and Friday Luncheon. eConference access is also included and available 4–6 weeks after the Conference.

#### Select Registration Type

- Individual registration by March 20 ..... \$375
- Individual registration after March 20. .... \$425

#### Printed course binder available for an additional fee through March 20

Conference registration includes Electronic Course Binder Download (PDF) in "Your Briefcase" at www.utcle.org

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- Printed Course Binder for tax exempt registrants ..... \$35  
(e.g., government employees and nonprofits)

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#### Select Webcast Date

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OP19/OG19

**HOUSTON**

March 28–29, 2019

**CONFERENCE LOCATION****Royal Sonesta Hotel Houston**  
2222 West Loop South  
Houston, TX 77027-3502  
713.627.7600**Special Room Rate: \$172**  
good through March 6, 2019  
reference "UT Law Oil, Gas and Mineral Law"  
(subject to availability)**Parking:**Self-Parking \$10 daily; \$16 overnight  
Valet \$16 daily; \$25 overnight**KEY DATES****March 20, 2019***Last day to order a printed binder***March 20, 2019***Last day for early registration*  
Add \$50 for registrations  
received after this time**March 22, 2019***Last day for full refund cancellation***March 25, 2019***Last day for partial refund cancellation*  
\$50 processing fee applied**March 28, 2019, 8:20 a.m.***Fundamentals begins***March 29, 2019, 8:05 a.m.***Institute begins***THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS****EVENT SPONSORS**

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