UT LAW CLE Continuing Legal Education

eConference

2025 Ernest E. Smith Oil, Gas, and Mineral Law eConference

Session 1 0.75 hr | 0.25 Ethics	**Case Law Update: Part One** Review recent decisions dealing with oil and gas leases, royalties, mineral conveyances, joint operating agreements, state regulation, and related topics. **Owen L. Anderson,** The University of Texas School of Law - Austin, TX
Session 2 0.50 hr	**The End of Chevron Deference: Implications for the Oil & Gas Industry** After 40 years, the Chevron doctrine has been overruled, fundamentally changing how the oil and gas industry navigates federal regulations as federal courts stand ready to play a more active role in interpreting regulatory statutes. Explore the impacts of this shift in power on the industry as a whole. **M. Alejandra Salas,** McGinnis Lochridge, LLP - Austin, TX
Session 3 0.50 hr	**Pore Some More** Discuss ownership rights in Texas of subsurface pore spaces. **Peter Hosey,** Jackson Walker LLP - San Antonio, TX
Session 4 0.50 hr	**Carbon Capture and Sequestration Permitting and Contract Issues** Address recent developments in state and federal regulation of the rapidly evolving carbon capture industry in Texas and recent trends in negotiating pore space agreements. **Thomas M. Weber,** McElroy, Sullivan, Miller & Weber, LLP - Austin, TX
Session 5 0.50 hr	**Case Law Update: Part Two** Review recent decisions dealing with oil and gas leases, royalties, mineral conveyances, joint operating agreements, state regulation, and related topics. **Owen L. Anderson,** The University of Texas School of Law - Austin, TX
Session 6 0.50 hr	**Pulling the Brake on Predatory Litigation** Our legal system is being exploited to generate unreasonable jury verdicts and unjust settlements that are inconsistent with fairness, efficiency, and the rule of law. What are the root causes of this crisis and what strategies are available to counteract these abuses and promote fairness and predictability? **Justin Anderson,** ExxonMobil - Houston, TX
Session 7 0.50 hr	**The Meaning of 'Other Minerals' and Other Incidents of Mineral Ownership** A reexamination of the granting clause and the meaning of "other minerals" as they pertain to other incidents of the mineral estate, including produced water, lithium, and porous space. **Monika U. Ehrman,** SMU Dedman School of Law - Dallas, TX

Session 8 0.50 hr	**Recent Developments in Deed Interpretation Issues in Mineral Conveyancing** Focus on recent developments in deed interpretation issues common to mineral conveyancing, including the “four corners” doctrine and “surrounding circumstances,” and examine recent case law implicating such interpretive issues. **Katy Wehmeyer,** Santoyo Wehmeyer P.C. - San Antonio, TX
Session 9 0.50 hr	**Royalty Updates and Issues** A summary of decisions and emerging issues in royalty-related disputes. **Ricardo E. Morales,** Person, Mohrer, Morales, Boddy, Garcia & Gutierrez, PLLC - Laredo, TX
Session 10 0.25 hr	**Adverse Possession of a Working Interest by a Non-Operator** Courts and parties have long struggled with how to apply adverse possession to mineral interests. Discuss one area of this uncertainty that is rapidly evolving: adverse possession claims of working interest by non-operators, including the Amarillo Court of Appeals’ recent decision in *PBEX II, LLC v. Dorchester Minerals, L.P.* **Samantha L. Thompson,** Hogan Thompson Schuelke LLP - Houston, TX
Session 11 0.50 hr	**Leasing and Development of State Lands and Minerals** Broad-ranging discussion regarding the leasing of approximately 13 million acres of state land in Texas managed by the General Land Office. Topics include oil and gas leasing, pooling, allocation wells, and lease audits, as well as brine mining, geothermal leasing, and leasing for carbon sequestration. **Nick Orman,** Texas General Land Office - Austin, TX
Session 12 0.50 hr	**Navigating Lease Termination Claims in Active Development Plays** Review some of the more common varieties of oil and gas lease termination claims, and discuss practical considerations for continued development of disputed properties in the midst of pending litigation. **J. Derrick Price,** McGinnis Lochridge - Austin, TX
Session 13 0.75 hr | 0.75 Ethics	**Texas Business Courts: The First 6+ Months** A view from the Business Court & Fifteenth Court of Appeals - Rules, Procedures, Cases & Know-How **Hon. Scott A. Brister,** Fifteenth Court of Appeals - Austin, TX **Hon. Sofia Adrogué,** Eleventh Business Court Division - Houston, TX
Session 14 0.50 hr	**Purchase and Sale Agreements: What's New** Discuss recent developments and trends in purchase and sale transactions in the energy sector. **Liz Felicidario,** Haynes Boone, LLP - Houston, TX
Session 15 0.50 hr | 0.50 Ethics	**Updated Texas Disciplinary Rules: What You Should Know** New and amended disciplinary rules took effect in October 2024, adding a number of clarifications and additional provisions. Hear a summary of rule changes relevant to an oil and gas practitioner.

	Olga Kobzar, Scott Douglass & McConnico LLP - Austin, TX
Session 16 0.50 hr	**Accommodating Concurrent Real Estate and Mineral Development in Urban Areas and Beyond** Revisiting surface use agreements and Chapter 92 of the Texas Natural Resources Code. **Ross Sutherland,** Scott Douglass & McConnico LLP - Austin, TX
Session 17 0.50 hr	**Mineral Interest Pooling Act** A short history of the MIPA and discussion of its current application and use. **Robert G. Hargrove,** Davis, Gerald & Cremer PC - Austin, TX
Session 18 0.50 hr	**The Curious Case of the Modern Non-Participating Leasehold Co-Tenant** Unlike traditional leasehold co-tenancy, modern leasehold co-tenancy in horizontal wells presents unique challenges. Following the holding in *Apache v. Devon*, where the court determined that an operator not in privity with another leasehold owner has no duty or obligation to pay the royalties on that leasehold owner's leases, practical questions have emerged over the payment of royalty to the non-participating leasehold co-tenant's lessors and mineral owners, which questions include: Who has the obligation to pay the royalty? When does the obligation to pay royalty accrue? What happens if a well doesn't pay out? What is the statute of limitations and how is it measured? How are royalties calculated in absence of production and price information? **Thomas M. "Mike" Murray,** McMahon Surovik Suttle, PC - Abilene, TX **Lauren Coursey,** McMahon Surovik Suttle, PC - Abilene, TX
Session 19 0.50 hr	**Water Use Rights in Oil and Gas Operations** An overview of what you need to know for your next water deal supporting oil and gas operations. Specifically, we will explore water law in the oil patch, acquiring water rights or the right to drill water wells, and structuring water transactions for oil and gas operations. **Taylor Spalla,** Kelly Hart & Hallman LLP - Fort Worth, TX
Session 20 0.75 hr | 0.75 Ethics	**Use of AI in Litigation** Understanding the basics of how AI works, the dangers and pitfalls with current AI technology, and ways AI can (or should not) be used in litigation. **J. Hoke (Trey) Peacock III,** Susman Godfrey LLP - Houston, TX