

Oil and Gas, Natural Resources, and Energy Journal


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Editor's Introduction

Micah L. Adkison

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ONE J

*Oil and Gas, Natural
Resources, and Energy Journal*

Volume 2, Number 5

Editor's Introduction

Welcome to the fifth issue of Volume 2 of the University of Oklahoma's *Oil and Gas, Natural Resources, and Energy Journal* ("ONE J"). This issue features four articles presented at the 2016 Eugene Kuntz Conference on Natural Resources Law and Policy in Oklahoma City. In addition to these articles, we begin this issue with the introductory remarks of R. Clark Musser for the presentation of the 2016 Eugene Kuntz Award for Leadership in Natural Resources Law and Policy to the co-founder of Devon Energy Corporation, Mr. Larry Nichols.

The first scholarly article presented in this issue is the *2016 Energy Litigation Update* prepared and presented by Mark D. Christiansen. Mr. Christiansen is Co-Leader of the Energy and Oil & Gas Practice Group in the law firm of McAfee & Taft and works from the firm's Oklahoma City office. His practice involves the representation of oil and gas producers, purchasers, and other sectors of the energy industry primarily in litigation. Since 1985, Mr. Christiansen has served as lead editor and co-author of annual energy litigation updates in the United States for the Year in Review publication of American Bar Association Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources and is lead editor for a similar annual energy litigation update published by the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Journal.

Next, ONE J presents a paper written by Timothy C. Dowd, titled *Current and Emerging Issues in Oil and Gas Title Examination*. Development in oilfield technology frequently impacts oil and gas titles. This article highlights some new and emerging issues being encountered because of new technology. Mr. Dowd is an attorney with Elias, Books, Brown & Nelson in Oklahoma City. His primary area of practice is oil and gas law, including rendering title opinions and drafting industry contracts. Mr. Dowd is a past President of the Oklahoma City Mineral Lawyers Society and former Chairperson of the Oklahoma Bar Association Mineral Law Section. Mr. Dowd is also the author of the chapter on Oil and Gas Titles in West Publishing Company's Oklahoma Real Estate Forms and Practice, as well as many other articles on oil and gas law.

The third article in our series is titled *Minimizing Antitrust Risks in Joint Ventures, Joint Bidding, and AMIs: A Review of Recent Enforcement Activities* written and presented by William M. Katz, Jr., Catherine Clemons, and Alexander T. Dimock. Mr. Katz, Ms. Clemons, and Mr. Dimock are attorneys in the Dallas office of Thompson & Knight LLP. Federal and state antitrust enforcers have recently focused their attention on some common practices in the oil and gas industry: joint ventures, joint bidding, and area of mutual interest ("AMI") agreements. These

enforcement actions highlight the need to proactively analyze the potential antitrust risks of these types of agreements which typically involved entities that otherwise compete with each other. The authors of this article summarize the relevant antitrust laws, explain the significance of the recent enforcement actions, and suggest some best practices to minimize antitrust risks in transactions.

ONE J concludes this special series with an article by James R. Strawn, titled *Use of the Special Warranty in Oklahoma and Texas Oil and Gas Transactions*. Mr. Strawn is a member of the Energy Law Practice Group at Winstead PC's Fort Worth office. He has focused on oil and gas matters during his thirty-five-year career, with extensive experience in all facets of exploration and production and the legal issues, agreements, and litigation associated with those matters. Mr. Strawn has handled many complex mergers and acquisitions as well as the largest private land sale and onshore oil and gas joint development program in modern U.S. history.

Finally, this issue includes summaries of recent cases from around the country that are relevant to the energy industry.

ONE J graciously thanks Mr. Musser, Mr. Christiansen, Mr. Dowd, Mr. Katz, Ms. Clemons, Mr. Dimock, and Mr. Strawn for allowing ONE J to publish their materials. The editorial board has worked diligently to make this issue a success, and we are proud to produce the January edition (the Kuntz Edition) of ONE J. ONE J also thanks Michael F. Waters for his suggestions and editorial assistance.

As always, we welcome your submissions for peer review and your suggestions on topics for future issues. Please help publicize ONE J by sharing the ONE J link with others.

ONE J

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2016 Eugene Kuntz Award for Leadership in Natural Resources Law
and Policy: Larry Nichols — Introductory Remarks by R. Clark
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SPECIAL ISSUE

Energy Litigation Update 2016 <i>Mark D. Christiansen</i>	425
Current and Emerging Issues in Oil and Gas Title Examination <i>Timothy C. Dowd</i>	505
Minimizing Antitrust Risks in Joint Ventures, Joint Bidding, and AMIs: A Review of Recent Enforcement Activities <i>William M. Katz, Jr., Catherine Clemons & Alexander T. Dimock</i>	533
Use of the Special Warranty in Oklahoma and Texas Oil and Gas Transactions <i>James R. Strawn</i>	543
Recent Case Decisions	565