



James R. Strawn

Counsel

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OVERVIEW

James Strawn is an attorney in the firm's oil, gas, and resources practice group. James's primary areas of practice include negotiating, drafting and advising on:

- oil and gas producing property acquisitions and divestitures.
- exploration, production, marketing and midstream matters.
- joint operating agreements, joint ventures, drilling and drillco agreements, joint participation arrangements, joint exploration and development agreements, oil and gas leasing, master service agreements, materials procurement agreements, and farmout agreements

James spent his first two years out of law school as an oil and gas administrative law judge where he presided over land, engineering and geologic testimony. Since then, James has practiced continually for over 35 years as an oil and gas attorney, focusing on all areas of the law relevant to the oil and gas exploration, production, marketing and processing business.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining the firm, James spent the majority of his career as an in-house transactions attorney for Conoco and for twenty years at Pennzoil/Devon Energy. Since leaving Devon, he provides oil and gas legal advice to oil and gas exploration and production companies, drilling companies, midstream companies and service companies.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Oklahoma Super Lawyer, Mergers and Acquisitions, Thomson Reuters, 2007

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation

- Oklahoma Mineral Lawyers Association
- The Eugene Kuntz Conference on Natural Resources Law & Policy Planning Committee Member

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- “Primer for the Non-Operator under a Standard Joint Operating Agreement,” March, 2017, presented to multiple Non-Operator clients.
- “Title Defect Issues in Upstream Acquisitions: Buyer Beware of Retained Acreage and Lease Expiration Clauses”, October 2017, Fort Worth Club Oil and Gas Seminar.
- “Use of the Special Warranty in Oklahoma and Texas Oil and Gas Transactions,” presented at the 2016 Eugene Kuntz Conference on Natural Resources Law and Policy, and Dallas Bar Association in 2017.
- “Oil and Gas Development, from Cradle to Grave” presented to WinU CLE, 2015
- “Lower Gas Prices, Longer Laterals, and Modern Lease Clauses” presented to AAPL Texas Land Institute, 2012, and to the Eugene Kuntz Conference, 2012.
- Moderator, Marcellus and Utica Midstream Infrastructure Summit, July, 2012.
- Federal Oil and Gas Leasing and Development: Onshore, Offshore and Indian Lands.” Presented at the University of Oklahoma College of Law, April, 2005
- “Oil and Gas Mergers and Acquisitions” presented at the 2003 Eugene Kuntz Conference on Natural Resources Law and Policy

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Tulsa College of Law, 1981 (*Phi Delta Phi Honor Society*)
- B.A., Oklahoma State University, 1978

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Ohio
- Bar of Oklahoma
- Bar of Pennsylvania
- Bar of Texas

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP POWERED BY HUB

- 25 March 2020, COVID-19: U.S. Oil and Gas Upstream Supply Chain Disruptions and Force Majeure (*Alerts/Updates*)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- “Use of the Special Warranty in Oklahoma and Texas Oil and Gas Transactions,” Oklahoma University College of Law Energy Law Journal, Spring, 2017.
- “Acquiring Midstream Assets and Gas Agreements”, co-author, published in Law360, March, 2017.
- “Confidentiality Agreements in Oil and Gas Transactions – “Beyond the Boilerplate”” published in the Oklahoma Bar Journal, May, 2005.

NEWS & EVENTS

- 17 August 2020, K&L Gates Advises Tokyo Gas America on Two Acquisitions (*Noteworthy Work*)

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Oil and Gas

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Testified in West Virginia as expert on oil and gas acquisitions and divestitures.
- Represented mining company in negotiating barge and rail shipping and transloading agreements.
- Represented mining company in acquiring sand properties, fabrication of dry plant, barge and rail shipping and transloading agreements.
- Represented Rig contractor in acquiring rigs, drafting and closing drilling contracts.
- Represented buyer in negotiation, drafting, due diligence and closing \$170 million producing property acquisition, Permian Basin.
- Represented seller in negotiating, drafting, and closing \$439 million sale of Rockies producing oil and gas properties and raw leasehold.
- Represented seller in negotiating, drafting, and closing \$30 million sale of Bakken producing oil and gas properties and raw leasehold.
- Represented seller in negotiating, drafting and closing \$32 million sale of Oklahoma producing oil and gas properties.
- Represented buyer in negotiating, drafting, due diligence and closing \$55 million in raw leasehold positions in the Utica Shale, southeast Ohio.
- Represented Seller in negotiating, drafting, due diligence and closing \$10 million producing property sale in the Marcellus Shale, West Virginia

- Represented buyer in negotiating, drafting, due diligence and closing \$121 million Permian Basin oil and gas producing properties acquisition
- Represented buyer in negotiating, drafting, due diligence and closing \$38.5 million Williston Basin oil and gas producing properties acquisition
- Represented buyer in negotiating, drafting, due diligence and closing \$28 million Delaware Basin producing oil and gas properties acquisition.
- Represented buyer in negotiating, drafting, due diligence and closing \$110 million six state producing oil and gas properties acquisition.
- Represented buyer in negotiating, drafting, due diligence and closing \$108 million Rockies producing oil and gas properties acquisition.
- Represented newly formed private equity funded company in negotiating, drafting and closing a \$60 Million entry acquisition to acquire a Texas Permian Basin producing oil field from two separate companies. One transaction was a farmin with a Joint Operat
- Represented buyer in negotiating, drafting, due diligence and closing \$20 million Delaware Basin producing oil and gas properties acquisition.
- Represented buyer in negotiating, drafting, due diligence and closing \$5 million Delaware Basin producing oil and gas properties acquisition.
- Represented buyer in negotiating, drafting, due diligence and closing \$10 million North Dakota and Montana producing oil and gas properties.
- Represented buyer in negotiating, drafting, due diligence and closing \$100 million Delaware Basin producing oil and gas properties acquisition.
- Represented client in renegotiation of 17,000 acre oil and gas lease in the Barnett Shale
- Represented newly formed private equity funded oil and gas exploration and production company in negotiating, drafting, documenting and closing a \$40 Million East Texas producing oil and gas field from two separate companies. Both transactions were via purchase and sale agreements. Legal services also included advising as to how to structure and design the transactions, and advising on title and environmental due diligence.
- Represented independent oil and gas developer against claim that its leases covering prospect expired for alleged failure to timely meet a continuous devleopment obligation. Issue value exceeded \$50 million.
- Represented independent oil company in negotiating and drafting of several hundred to several thousand acre Permian and Delaware Basin oil and gas leases and surface use agreements. Oil and gas lease included lessor farmin farmout option.