Don’t forget to scroll down for Industry Update articles from practitioners and students!

We are honored and excited to add the following firms and individuals to IEL’s membership roster. Please join us in welcoming them to our organization!

**Academic/Government/Non-Profit:**
- Primila Edward, Brickfields Asia College, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Associate:**
- Paul J. Goodwine, Looper Goodwine P.C., New Orleans, LA

**Law School:**
- Vermont Law School, South Royalton, VT with Dr. Tade Oyewunmi as the Advisory Board Representative

**Young Energy Professional Members:**
- Natalie Bravo, Tamuning, Guam
- Mitchell Bryant, King & Spalding LLP, Houston, TX
- Chantal Carriere, White & Case LLP, Houston, TX
- Justin Clapper, Pearson Adair & Co., Plano, TX
- Mike Cross, Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP, Denver, CO
- Anne Duecker, HKA, Houston, TX
- Taylor P. Gay, Looper Goodwine, P.C., New Orleans, LA
Gibson Dunn Houston associate Ashley Nguyen has been recognized as one of the 2019 Top 50 Women Lawyers in Houston by the National Diversity Council. Ashley was honored during a breakfast on Tuesday, October 29, at the Marriott Marquis Houston. The breakfast recognized those that are changemakers working towards equity for all and is a distinctive list of female lawyers who mold and impact the legal industry with their insight and leadership.

Click here for more information.

Baker Botts Energy Litigation partner, Bill Kroger has been selected to receive the ADL 2020 Karen Susman Jurisprudence Award for his exceptional work for 30 years of professionalism and public service in the Houston community. The Karen H. Susman Jurisprudence Award, named in memory of a distinguished former chair of the ADL regional board, salutes the outstanding civic activities of honorees, and recognizes their continued dedication to the mission of ADL. Mr. Kroger joins a very distinguished group of former Baker Botts partners who have received this Award in the past including: E. William Barnett, Rufus Cormier, and Diana Marshall.
Denmon Sigler was named Chair of the North American Oil & Gas Practice at the global law firm Baker McKenzie. Based in Houston, Denmon brings more than 20 years of experience to the role, advising clients globally on complex, cross-border transactions involving the oil and gas, midstream, refining, chemical, petrochemical and energy industry more broadly. Baker McKenzie’s Oil & Gas practice functions seamlessly domestically and abroad and has a great depth of oil and gas transaction and dispute experience. Read more.

McKool Smith Principal Lauren Varnado was honored as one of the Top 50 Women Lawyers during The National Diversity Council’s Legal Diversity Week, held October 29 – November 1 in Houston, Texas. Legal Diversity Week pulls in a diverse set of leaders to celebrate and advance diversity within the legal field. Lauren joins an esteemed group of women who are being recognized not only for achieving professional success, but making it possible for others to more easily follow in their footsteps. Click here for more information.

IEL News

Young Litigator Oil & Gas Conference

Interview with Conference Co-Chairs Katherine Smith Baker, Partner at Bradley Murchison Kelly & Shea LLC and Brittany B. Salup, Counsel – U.S. Litigation Management for Chevron Upstream

Read Interview.

Top 5 Reasons to Attend This Year’s Midstream Oil & Gas Law Conference

Mark Schroeder, Enable Midstream Partners, LP

It only comes along every other year, and this year’s Midstream Oil & Gas Law Conference, presented by the Institute for Energy Law, is one you won’t want to miss. Conference Co-Chairs Kurt Krieger, Member at Steptoe & Johnson PLLC, and Mark Schroeder, Executive Vice President and General Counsel at Enable Midstream Partners, LP, along with the conference host have assembled an agenda of timely topics, featuring some of the top legal experts in their field. Read more.
The IEL Young Energy Professional Mentorship Program

The Institute for Energy Law’s Inaugural Leadership Class is pleased to announce the launch of their class project, the IEL Young Energy Professional Mentorship Program! This program is designed to pair new energy professionals (less than five years in practice) with more experienced practitioners. The pairings are meant to help young professionals create stronger ties within the industry, as well as have a person to reach out to if they have career questions.

The IEL Young Energy Professional Mentorship Program will run in conjunction with IEL’s membership year, with the program starting January 1 and ending December 31.

This program is available to IEL members who meet the guidelines in the Mentorship Handbook. If you would like to learn more about this program, click here.

To apply to be a Mentee, click here.

To apply to be a Mentor, click here.

If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact IEL’s Associate Director, Vickie Adams.

IEL’s 2nd Leadership Class Retreat
Vickie Adams, Institute for Energy Law

It’s rare to have forty young professionals in the same room watching a presentation without a single person on their phone or computer. But, that is the level of engagement we received from each individual member of this year’s class at IEL’s Leadership Class Retreat. Read more.

Industry News

IEL Practice Committee Highlight – Litigation & Dispute Resolution

Roundtable Discussion with IEL Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice Committee Members Craig Romero (ConocoPhillips Company), Tim Engel (King & Spalding), and
Matt Jones (Liskow & Lewis)

Read Interview.

Why You Should Bother With LinkedIn

LinkedIn was around when I was in college, but I either never heard of it or I didn’t pay attention. Sometime in law school is when LinkedIn first came on my radar, but I was not interested. I had a hard time grasping the concept of using social media for anything professional. Read more.

By Vickie Adams, Institute for Energy Law

PHMSA’s New Rules Aim to Overhaul Pipeline Safety

On October 1, 2019, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (“PHMSA”) published three final rules relating to the transportation of hazardous liquids and gas along regulated sectors of the nation’s infrastructure. Read more.

By Kurt L. Krieger and Ryan Dunne Ewing, Steptoe & Johnson PLLC

Business Friendly: Wyoming Establishes Chancery Court

Wyoming is business friendly and has been taking efforts to streamline conflicts related to companies doing business in the Cowboy State. Read more.

By Melissa J. Lyon, Steptoe & Johnson PLLC

Featured Student Article

Fixed vs. Floating Non-Participating Royalty Interest: Texas Courts Trending Toward Floating as Industry Players Look for Guidance

As the oil and gas industry continues to advance in technology through the shale revolution, previously unprofitable areas have become prospects. The result of this advance in technology includes unearthing both profitable formations and complex title. Read more.

By Logan Dorsett, Texas Tech School of Law 21’