



Texas Journal of Oil, Gas, and Energy Law

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The time of the semester has come again for students to buckle down for finals, and the TJOEGL staff is hard at work completing Volume 4:2 of the Journal. The Volume 4 Board is focused on finishing up what has been an amazingly successful school year. TJOEGL will host one more roundtable luncheon, with Ted Matula, and an end-of-the-year celebration for staff members, along with publishing a spring issue of over 250 pages. The Volume 4 Board has also been busy helping the newly selected Volume 5 Board transition into their duties. Earlier this month several board members attended the 35th Annual Ernest E. Smith Oil, Gas & Mineral Law Institute, where Professor Smith noted that, in his opinion, TJOEGL is the top energy law journal in the country. TJOEGL would like to thank Professor Smith and Presiding Officer David Patton for mentioning the Journal at the conference. Further, as TJOEGL wraps up Volume 4 and looks to Volume 5, we thank each of you for your past support and look forward to working with you in the future.

Becky Miller Roundtable

On March 5, TJOEGL hosted a roundtable luncheon featuring Becky Miller of Scott, Douglass & McConnico in Austin. Ms. Miller sat down with nearly twenty Journal and Society members to discuss her career path and answer students' questions. Ms. Miller said she never really set out to have a career; she only decided to study law because she found it interesting. Today Ms. Miller is one of the top oil and gas litigators in the state and has been practicing at Scott Douglass, where she began her legal career, for nearly thirty years. Originally Ms. Miller was more interested in litigation than in oil and gas per se. However, the combination of risk-taking adventurers in the oil and gas industry and the trial-by-ambush nature of regulatory work brought her into the business of oil and gas litigation. Ms. Miller was involved as Coastal Oil & Gas Corp.'s attorney from the onset of the litigation that became the landmark Texas Supreme Court case Coastal v. Garza. The students were fortunate to hear a rundown of the complicated case from someone directly involved in the suit. Today Ms. Miller says she is still fascinated with the industry and loves that she never knows where her oil and gas practice will take her next. TJOEGL would like to thank Ms. Miller for coming to speak.

Dates to Remember

- April 9 – Roundtable Luncheon featuring Ted Matula
- April 15 – Staff End of Year Celebration
- June – Watch for 4:2 in your mailbox

Check out TJOEGL on Facebook!

We invite all Journal and Society members, along with alumni, speakers, supporters, and friends of the Journal to join our group on Facebook. This is a great way to keep up with everyone involved with the Journal and receive notice of upcoming events.

[Click here to join!](#)

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Articles to Look For

Financing of Oil and Gas Transactions: Jeffery S. Munoz, a partner at Vinson & Elkins, provides an overview of the traditional oil and gas financing structures and follows with a more substantive discussion of financing techniques that are considered somewhat novel or non-traditional. The article describes the basic format of the techniques, some of the risks and associated mitigants, required documentation, and common issues of these non-traditional techniques.

Changes in Wind Energy Law and Regulation in Texas: In this recent developments article, Diana Liebmann, an energy regulatory partner at Haynes & Boone, provides a brief description of the Competitive Renewable Energy Zone (CREZ) proceedings taking place at the Texas PUC. The author also addresses the challenges to constructing CREZ transmission lines and provides an update on the progress being made for transmission lines to be built to wind farms in West Texas.

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Please join us in congratulating the newly selected Volume 5 TJOGEL Board for the 2009-2010 school year.

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Meet the Board & Associate Editors



Caitlin E. Ryan, Associate Editor: Caitlin is a third-year student, second-year Journal member, and one of this year's Associate Editors. She graduated from Duke University where she earned her Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science in 2006. Originally from Skillman, New Jersey, Caitlin has also lived in New York, Florida, and Kentucky. Caitlin had little exposure to oil, gas, and energy law while growing up in New Jersey; however, she quickly became interested in the field upon moving to Texas. Her other interests include running, traveling, and visiting art museums. Caitlin has accepted an associate position at Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell in Dallas.



Scott Shtofman, Associate Editor: Scott is a second-year student and an Associate Editor for the Journal. Scott attended the Indiana University Kelley School of Business where he earned his BSBA in 2006 and MBA in 2007. He has worked at Grant Thornton in Tax and Business Advisory Services and has interned at the FDIC in the Division of Resolutions and Receiverships. Scott is interested in both technology and titles issues in the energy field, as well as the effect the current financial situation will have on the energy industry. Scott is originally from Dallas, Texas. He is a triathlete and has competed in numerous races in the Austin and the Dallas areas.



Heather M. Woods, Associate Editor: Heather is also a second-year student and an Associate Editor. Heather became interested in energy law while growing up in the gulf coast port city of Corpus Christi. Her interest developed further while watching the emergence of wind farms around Lubbock, where she lived while attending Texas Tech University. Heather graduated from Tech with a B.A. in Public Relations in August 2007 and is an avid golfer.

Please send questions or comments to info@tjogel.org or visit our website at www.tjogel.org.

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