San Antonio Oil Exec ‘Thumbed His Nose’ at Legal Process, Judge Says

News

Brian Alfaro had failed to provide various records to a court-appointed receiver, prompting the judge to issue an arrest warrant.

Environmental Defense Fund Satellites to Monitor Methane Emissions From Oil and Gas Operations

News

An EDF spokesman said the satellite will be able to distinguish emissions from ambient methane and trace them back to their source.

Texas Case Offers Three

Lessons for Contract Drafters

Insight

The Texas Supreme Court recently heard oral argument on the interpretation of a farmout agreement providing that an assignment could not be made “without the express written consent,” according to a post on the website of Porter Hedges.

2018’s Bad Guys in Energy

Insight

Charles Sartain of Gray Reed & McGraw has posted a list of what he calls “2018’s parade of reprobates, rapscallions and others generally lacking in moral hygiene” in the world of energy law.

Local Taxation of Oil and Gas Activities Fails Again

News

The Texas Supreme Court issued four opinions addressing the taxation of compressors used to deliver natural gas into pipelines, according to a post on Gray Reed & McGraw’s Energy & the Law blog.

Texas High Court Invokes the Discovery Rule

News

The Texas Supreme Court has held that the discovery rule delayed the running of the statute of limitations on behalf of the holder of a recorded right of first refusal to purchase mineral interests, reports the Energy & the Law blog of Gray Reed & McGraw.

What Colorado's and Washington's Pro-Energy Votes Could Mean for the Rest of the Industry

Insight

Just because voters in two states rejected measures that energy companies opposed, but that doesn't mean the fight is over for oil and gas companies, warns Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney in a website post.

Expropriation Ruling Explains Landowner's Burden to Prove Severance Damages to a 'Legal Certainty'

News

A Louisiana appellate court has added to the relatively sparse body of appellate rulings in pipeline expropriation matters with an unpublished opinion affirming that landowners whose property is expropriated must prove their entitlement to severance damages to a "legal certainty."

'Frack Master' of Texas Oil Fame Pleads Guilty to Massive Fraud, Faces Up to 12 Years in Prison

News

Christopher Faulkner, the former CEO of Dallas-based Breitling Energy, became a star in business circles for his high-profile media appearances defending hydraulic fracturing or fracking, reports *The Dallas Morning News*.

Pipeline Companies Should Do More to Prepare for NTSB Accident Investigations

Insight

The National Transportation Safety Board is well known for its sleuthing on plane crashes. However, oil and gas executives often need better education about how the agency tackles one of its other responsibilities – investigating pipeline accidents, advise attorneys with the national law firm LeClairRyan.

What Will the 2018 Elections in Colorado, New Mexico, Wyoming and Alaska Mean for the Energy Industry?

News

Holland & Hart will host a complimentary Energy and Resource lunch and seminar, discussing how governors' races, along with potential shifts in the make-up of state legislatures, might affect energy policy and future development in several states.

Webinar Looks at Research on Landowner Coalitions in Shale Gas Development

Webinar. Thursday, August 23, 1 p.m. EDT

Marcellus Shale landowner coalitions – their form, function and impact – will be the topic of a one-hour, web-based seminar offered by Penn State Extension at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 23, 2018.

Department of Energy Streamlines Small-Scale LNG Export Authorizations

Insight

The Department of Energy has announced a final rule that will expedite the approval process for small-scale exports of natural gas, reports Cadwalader.

5th Circuit: How to Determine Whether a Contract Is (Or Is

Not) Maritime

Insight

The 5th Circuit is sending a signal that it intends to use *Doiron* to "clean house," hopefully bringing more uniformity to the maritime contract determination, according to Liskow & Lewis

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Court Affirms Take-Nothing Verdict for Company Harmed by Texas Ponzi Scheme

News

A federal district court judge has affirmed a take-nothing defense verdict for the owner of an Oklahoma City-based company that unknowingly provided services in connection with a mineral royalties Ponzi scheme.

Webinar: Start-ups Driving Innovation in Upstream Oil & Gas

Webinar, July 31, 10 a.m. CDT

Frost & Sullivan's Oil & Gas Innovation Council will present a complimentary webinar titled "Start-ups Driving Innovation in

Upstream Oil & Gas” on Tuesday, July 31, 2018, at 10 a.m. CDT.

Texas Supreme Court Redefines an Offset Well Clause

News

The Court purported to limit its holding to these facts, but the opinion could have far-reaching consequences, according to Gray Reed & McGraw.

Oil Firm, Once Called ‘Wolf of Wall Street Type’ Company, Sued By SEC for Fraud

News

Company brochures said that some of the wells were expected to provide returns of 300 to 500 percent, a number the SEC said conflicted with geologist production estimates, reports *The Dallas Morning News*.

Texas Court Holds Drop in Oil Prices is Not Force Majeure

News

Oil and gas operators should be careful to expressly identify any market-based risks that they want to encompass within force majeure provisions, advises Liskow & Lewis.

AZA’s Tim Shelby Appointed to Texas State Bar’s Oil & Gas Jury Charges Committee

News

Tim Shelby, a partner in Ahmad, Zavitsanos, Anaipakos, Alavi & Mensing P.C., or AZA, was appointed to a three-year term on the State Bar of Texas’ Oil & Gas Pattern Jury Charges Committee.