

Jeffrey C. King

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Jeffrey King is a partner and a member of the Commercial Disputes practice group. He has tried many cases to jury verdicts as well as to the bench and before arbitration panels. Jeffrey has represented a variety of oil and gas producers in federal and state courts and before arbitration panels in Texas, California, Kansas, Colorado, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, West Virginia, and Wyoming, as well as before the Supreme Courts of Texas, North Dakota, Oklahoma, and West Virginia. He also has extensive experience in multi-district and class action litigation.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Jeffrey was a long-time partner at K&L Gates and Hughes & Luce prior to leaving the Firm in 2011. After a seven-year absence as a shareholder in the Fort Worth office of a Texas law firm, he rejoined the Firm in 2018.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognized by *Chambers USA* with a Band 1 ranking for Oil & Gas Litigation, USA - Nationwide, 2020-2026
- Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States* as a Recommended Lawyer for Energy Litigation: Oil & Gas – Mid-Market ($0-500m), 2026
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Dallas, TX
  - Commercial Litigation, 2013-2027
  - Energy Law, 2015-2027
  - Oil and Gas Law, 2008-2027
- Winner, Business Litigation of the Year Award, Association of Corporate Counsel's Outstanding Corporate Counsel Awards, 2019
- AV Preeminent Rated by Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review

- Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® as "Lawyer of the Year" for Oil and Gas in Dallas/Fort Worth, 2019
- Tarrant County's Top Attorneys, *Fort Worth, Texas Magazine,* 2010-2023
- Strathmore's *Who's Who Professional of the Year*, Oil and Gas Litigation, 2011
- Named to Texas Super Lawyers list, 2012-2023
- Who's Who in Energy, *Dallas Business Journal,* 2012-2014, 2017
- The Best Lawyers in Dallas, *D Magazine,* 2014-2015, 2017

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

Jeffrey is a frequent speaker and author on various oil and gas topics.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Shale Insight Conference, Pittsburgh, “Emerging Topics” (2018)
- Oil and Gas Law Update, Annual Advanced Civil Trial Course (22 August 2018)
- Royalty Presentation, Texas Tech Law Review Energy Law Symposium (16 January 2015)
- Trends in Oil and Gas Litigation, Annual Advanced Civil Trial Course (13 November 2014)
- Recent Litigation and Court Cases Affecting Royalties, PDI National Oil and Gas Royalty Conference (3 November 2014)
- Up and Coming Trends in Oil and Gas, Fort Worth Annual Judicial Education Conference (9 September 2014)
- Litigation Update, Shale Plays Conference (Moderator) (5 September 2014)
- Fracking Litigation Panel, State Bar of Texas, Asian Pacific Interest Section (5 April 2014)
- Allegations of Groundwater Contamination Caused by Hydraulic Fracture Stimulation, Texas A&M Law Review 5th Annual Energy Symposium (20 March 2014)
- Recent Litigation and Court Cases Affecting Royalties, PDI National Oil and Gas Royalty Conference (22 October 2013)
- Texas and Oklahoma Law on Royalty Calculations Concerning Deductions, Professional Development Institute (21 October 2013)
- Litigation Update, Shale Plays Conference (Moderator) (7 June 2013)
- Selected Emerging and Re-Emerging Issues in Oil and Gas Law, Texas Judiciary Conference/Texas Wesleyan Energy Symposium (11 January 2011)

- Land Use and Zoning: Production issues affected by urban sprawl, University of Houston Law Foundation Advanced Oil and Gas Short Course (23 January 2004)
- Hot Legal Topics Involving Marketing Obligations and Marketing Contracts Affecting Royalties, Professional Development Institute, National Oil and Gas Royalty Conference (January 2003)
- Implied Covenants--What Are they? What Are the Future Considerations? University of Houston Law Foundation, Advanced Oil and Gas Short Course (January 2002)
- Drafting Considerations for the Oil and Gas Lease, Professional Development Institute, National Oil and Gas Royalty Conference (January 2002)
- Valuation for Royalty Determination Purposes, 29th Annual North American Petroleum Accounting Conference (January 2002)
- Implied Covenants including the Implied Covenant to Market, University of Houston Law Foundation, Advanced Oil and Gas Short Course (January 2001)
- Title to the Mineral Estate--It Is Not Cut & Dried!, Professional Development Institute, National Oil and Gas Royalty Conference (January 2001)
- Current Legal Issues Affecting Royalties, 28th Annual North American Petroleum Accounting Conference (January 2001)

EDUCATION

- J.D., Texas Tech University School of Law, 1987 *(cum laude, Texas Tech Law Review, Board of Barristers)*
- B.A., The University of Texas, 1983

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Texas
- United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
- United States District Court for the District of North Dakota
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Oklahoma
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas
- United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas
- United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas

- United States District Court for the Western District of Arkansas
- United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma
- United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania
- United States District Court for the Western District of Texas

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- June 2021, 2020 Legal 500 U.S. Guide Accolades
- 25 March 2020, COVID-19: U.S. Oil and Gas Upstream Supply Chain Disruptions and Force Majeure

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Co-Author, The Uniform Electronic Transaction Act: Risk of Binding Oil and Gas Industry Contracts, Journal of the Energy Law Practitioner, Vol 1, Issue 1, Texas Tech University School of Law, July 2022
- Co-Author, Oil and Gas Litigation Update 2018, State Bar of Texas Advanced Civil Trial Course 2018
- Houston Court of Appeals Binds Pre-PSA Emails Created Binding Contract (24 October 2017)
- Co-Author, Up and Coming Trends in Oil and Gas, Annual Judicial Education Conference (2014)
- Co-Author, Trends in Oil and Gas Litigation, State Bar of Texas Advanced Civil Trial Course 2014
- Co-Author, Factual Causation: The Missing Link in Hydraulic Fracture--Groundwater Contamination Litigation, 22 Duke University Environmental Law & Policy Forum 341, 2012
- Selected Re-Emerging and Emerging Trends in Oil and Gas Law as a Result of Production from Shale Formations, 18 Texas Wesleyan Law Review, 2011
- Co-Author, A Primer on Oil and Gas Law in the Marcellus Shale States, 4 Texas Journal of Oil, Gas and Energy law 155 (2009)
- Co-Author, When Does An Oil & Gas Lease Contain a Continuous Drilling Obligation, The Landman Magazine, 2008
- The Compression of Natural Gas, Texas Journal of Oil, Gas, and Energy Law, 2006
- Lower Natural Gas Prices Will Raise Difficult Questions, Fort Worth Business Press, 2005
- Natural Gas Royalties, Texas Bar Journal, 2000
- Natural Gas Royalties--Lessor vs. Lessee and the Implied Covenant to Market, Petroleum Accounting and Financial Management Journal, Vol. 19, No.3, 2000

- Title Defect Doesn't Equal Lease Loss, authored with John B. Holden, Jr., North Texas Oil and Gas Newsletter, 1999

NEWS & EVENTS

- 4 June 2026, K&L Gates Receives Nearly 235 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2026 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 5 June 2025, K&L Gates Receives More Than 240 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2025 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 6 June 2024, K&L Gates Receives More Than 200 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2024 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 1 June 2023, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2023 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 18 August 2022, More Than 350 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2023 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 1 June 2022, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2022 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 19 August 2021, Nearly 300 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2022 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 21 May 2021, K&L Gates' Energy, Infrastructure, and Resources Practice, Lawyers Named Among Leaders in 2021 Chambers USA Guide
- 17 August 2020, K&L Gates Advises Tokyo Gas America on Two Acquisitions
- 10 July 2020, K&L Gates Energy, Infrastructure and Resources Practice Ranked by The Legal 500 United States 2020 Guide in Eight Categories with 28 Lawyers Recommended
- 23 April 2020, K&L Gates, Lawyers Recognized in 2020 Chambers USA Guide
- 29 March 2019, K&L Gates Secures Rare Oklahoma Gas Royalties Jury Verdict for Range Resources Corporation
- 22 March 2018, K&L Gates Adds Five-Lawyer Energy Team in Texas

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Commercial Disputes
- Energy Disputes

INDUSTRIES

- Energy
- Oil and Gas

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Co-counsel with Elizabeth Tiblets in North Dakota oil royalty litigation. Argued certified question to North Dakota Supreme Court.
- Lead trial counsel in Oklahoma marketable product royalty underpayment case. Obtained complete defense verdict.
- Lead counsel in defending major oil company in Ohio royalty underpayment class action. Case won on the merits.
- Obtained affirmance from West Virginia Supreme Court of Injunction Concerning Oil and Gas Related Partnership.
- Successful prosecution of trespass and lease termination suit.
- Prosecution of mineral lien case. Case won on the merits at bench trial.
- Lead counsel in defense of arbitration concerning Gas Purchase Agreement.
- Lead counsel in Texas royalty underpayment case. Case won on the merits at bench trial.
- Lead counsel in trespass case concerning hydraulic fracking. Obtained dismissal on the merits.
- Lead counsel in arbitration concerning Oil and Gas Asset Purchase Agreement. Case won on the merits.
- Co-counsel in breach of contract dispute concerning fuel contract payouts. Case won after one week bench trial.
- Lead counsel in cost of plugging dispute of off-shore well. Case won after one-week jury trial.
- Lead counsel in substantial Dispute between operator and nonoperator. Case won after four-week jury trial and on appeal.
- Lead counsel in case against surface/royalty owner. Case settled after two weeks of jury trial.
- Lead counsel in defense of 124 cases for breach of lease contract. Cases won on the merits including one bench trial.
- Lead counsel in defense of multiple groundwater contamination cases allegedly caused by hydraulic fracture stimulation. Cases won on the merits.
- Lead counsel in defense of single royalty owner cases concerning Texas law.
- Lead counsel in defense of largest royalty underpayment MDL in the United States concerning Texas oil and gas leases. Successful settlement was obtained.
- Lead counsel in defense of class action cases concerning royalty underpayment relating to Oklahoma oil and gas leases and the Production Revenue Standards Act. Successful settlements were obtained.

- Lead counsel in defense of class action concerning royalty underpayments relating to Kansas oil and gas leases. Class certification defeated. Case won on the merits.