
LRM Welcomes New Hires

August 25, 2010

Gray Reed & McGraw welcomes Ryan McKenzie and Jonathan Worbington as associates in its Oil & Gas Energy practice in the Houston office, Favad Bajaria as an associate in Dallas, and Greg Sampson as a member in Dallas.

Favad Bajaria graduated from Baylor Law School in 2010. While in law school, Favad was an executive editor for the Baylor Law Review, a member of the Order of Barristers, and recipient of the Frances B. McCall Memorial Academic Scholarship. Favad also served as a judicial extern for The Honorable Walter S. Smith for the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas.

Ryan McKenzie's practice focuses on natural resources law with an emphasis on title examination. He primarily represents oil and gas companies in their exploration and production operations. His work primarily includes the preparation of drillsite, division order, unit-wide and acquisition title opinions in Texas, offshore financing opinions, presiding over and conducting due diligence for the preparation of curative documentation for large acquisition dealings, and negotiating and drafting numerous oil and gas and real estate transactional documents.

Greg Sampson is Board Certified in Estate Planning and Probate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, and focuses his practice in the areas of estate planning and estate administration, probate matters, trusts, executive compensation, and asset protection planning. Mr. Sampson has extensive experience in counseling clients on wealth transfers, including estate and gift tax planning, charitable planning, retirement planning, estate and trust management, family asset management and business succession planning. He has written and conducted seminars on various estate planning topics, including the impact of the minimum distribution rules on estate planning with retirement benefits, asset protection planning, fiduciary duties under powers of attorney, Texas' new Prudent Investor Act and Principal and Income Act, and advanced directives and end-of-life decision making.

Jonathan Worbington is an associate in the Houston office. His practice focuses mostly on the oil and gas industry, including title and transactional matters. He has represented local and national clients in a variety of oil and gas financing projects and also has considerable experience reviewing leases, operating agreements, curative materials, preparing title opinions and providing advice on various oil and gas matters. Prior to joining Gray Reed & McGraw, Jonathan gained experience in the oil and gas field working as a landman in the Houston area. He furthered his experience while working in the energy, finance and real estate section of a nationally known law firm in Houston, and in the oil and gas title examination section of a Louisiana and Texas based law firm.

