



ROCKY MOUNTAIN
MINERAL LAW FOUNDATION

Ethics for Transactional Attorneys: Identifying the Client in Multi-Party Transactions

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10am PST, 11am MST, Noon CST, and 1pm EST for 1 hour

Speakers:



Allison Donovan



David G. Ebner



Ethics for Transactional Attorneys: Identifying the Client in Multi-Party Transactions

Smart companies banding together on high risk or intensive capital opportunities don't want to waste money by reinventing legal work already being performed by other members of the group, so they often chose to ride along on others' work. They may even consciously recognize this at the outset and agree to share legal expenses. This makes perfect business sense, but it presents a fundamental ethical issue for the lawyers: are all the participants clients? If not, who is the client? This presentation will consider:

- elements of an attorney-client relationship;
- effect of third party involvement;
- professional responsibility consequences of classification as a client;
- the importance of each party clearly understanding its status and role;

in the context of frequently encountered multi-party transactions, like oil and gas joint operations, lending syndicates, and unincorporated ventures.

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Biographies



Allison Donovan

ALLISON DONOVAN represents both strategic and fund-based investors in complex mergers, acquisitions, and joint ventures. From the start, Allison had a unique insight into business concerns: She began her legal career in the in-house lawyers' offices of two large corporations. Today, she leverages that experience on a daily basis to help her clients achieve business success. Her undergraduate degree in cellular neuroscience provides a framework for creative legal problem solving, as well as a distinctive understanding of the life sciences industry. Before she returned to Colorado to join Hogan Lovells, Allison worked in the New York office of a leading international law firm.



David G. Ebner

DAVID G. EBNER has been working on mineral exploration and upstream oil and gas matters for more than forty years, during which time he has lost most of his hair and his firm has lost all of its punctuation. He has also followed professional responsibility issues throughout that period, writing Foundation papers and doing Bar Association presentations on many ethical issues arising in natural resources transactional practice.