



### **Instructor: Tom Rucker, CPL**

Tom Rucker has over thirty-five years diversified oil and gas experience and has worked most of the major U. S. basins in all phases of land work. He graduated from The University of Texas with a Petroleum Land Management degree in 1981 and has worked for large and small E & P's as well as in trust management positions at The Northern Trust Company, managing the mineral holdings for affluent clients.

He interned at Palo Petroleum while attending UT and then worked the Anadarko Basin in Oklahoma with Mack Oil Company. In 1981 he joined Shell Oil Company in Houston and assigned to Rocky Mountain Division. At Shell Tom worked extensively on field assignments in Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada and North Dakota, conducting title and securing leases, dealing with the BLM and Bureau of Indian Affairs before returning in-house to work federal units in Nevada. In 1985 Shell transferred Tom to its West Coast operations in Bakersfield where he handled land issues in Shell's heavy oil operations in Kern County, California.

When oil prices tanked in the mid to late 80's Tom left Shell to pursue an MBA also working for lease brokers and managing mineral interests for California trustees. He passed the CPL exam in 1990 having joined Trust Services of America in Los Angeles in 1988. There, he managed a fledgling department turning it into a profit center. His career took him to Dallas when Northern Trust acquired TSA in 1992. At Northern, Tom was promoted to Vice President and responsible for managing the energy assets, negotiating leases, monetizing the assets and conducting client presentations.

After 17 years in energy trust management Tom joined Encana in 2005 as a Land Negotiator in its East Texas Cotton Valley Bossier and Lime fields. There, he managed a five-rig drill schedule, negotiated multiple-well carry farmouts and acquired large blocks of leases to promote Encana's drilling program. In 2010 he left Encana to join Pioneer's Barnett Team and managed the title and drill schedule for Pioneer's horizontal drilling program and also its surface operations.

A member of AAPL since 1980 Tom served as AAPL's Ethics Chairman in 2014-2015. In March 2015 after the sale of its Barnett operations, Tom accepted a package with Pioneer and launched Buell Rucker Land Services, offering consulting services. Tom lives with his family in Dallas, married to Debbie thirty years and has three children and a Lab.