



Ryan J. Morgan | Member

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LICENSURE WV
EDUCATION J.D. West Virginia University

Ryan J. Morgan's practice involves representation of upstream exploration and production companies, investors, and private equity clients in negotiating complex transactions, operational agreements, and managing strategic business issues. Mr. Morgan's practice focuses on acquisitions and divestitures of upstream energy assets, regulatory guidance, and oil and gas transactions, including joint ventures, participation agreements, joint operating agreements, exploration and development agreements, private equity financing transactions, and related industry contracts. He has also led and managed large teams conducting asset diligence on significant transactions. Mr. Morgan is the leader of the firm's Energy Transactions Practice Group.

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Represented Fortune 500 energy client before regulatory agencies and provided key guidance in developing process to establish pooling units for largest active coalbed methane production program in state

Assisted in multi-million dollar sale and purchase of coal assets and related facility, sales and distribution contracts

Developed guidelines, led due diligence teams, and prepared transactional documents for several multi-million dollar acquisitions of upstream oil and gas assets, involving review of title, environmental issues, property rights, liability and litigation matters, negotiation of contract terms and drafting of necessary documents

Represented Fortune 500 energy client in negotiating significant asset acquisitions in Marcellus shale

Provided guidance in developing major title and asset development projects for upstream E&P companies, managing project timelines, budget and delivery goals

Litigated complex real estate and mineral ownership cases to allow clients to achieve development goals

Litigated "missing and unknown owners" case to allow client to lease and produce oil and gas

Lead counsel responsible for negotiating transactions involving over 100,000 net mineral acres in Appalachia's unconventional resource plays

Local counsel responsible for providing guidance on applicable law and analysis of complex title issues

as well as lead counsel on asset due diligence for acquisitions, JV and joint development agreements involving over one million net mineral acres in the Appalachian Basin

Handled acquisition by foreign-based investment group of U.S. on-shore assets

Provided policy and implementation guidance for new legislation to clarify notice requirements in connection with development of coalbed methane

WORK EXPERIENCE

2008 Steptoe & Johnson PLLC
1998-2008 Solo practitioner
1999-2007 Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Tyler County

MEMBERSHIPS AND AWARDS

PROFESSIONAL

The Best Lawyers in America®, Energy Law (2012-Present), Natural Resources Law (2021-Present)
Mountain Honorary
The State Journal, Generation Next 2010
Real Estate, Zoning & Land Use Committee, West Virginia State Bar
West Virginia Law Review
Order of the Coif
St. George Tucker Brooke, Fellow

INDUSTRY/CIVIC

The Foundation for Natural Resources and Energy Law
GOWV Oil & Gas Association
Energy & Mineral Law Foundation
NALTA
Lions Club
Chair, Sistersville Heritage Foundation
West Virginia Governor's School Advisory Committee