

James “JJ” McAnelly III – TEST

Partner

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James (JJ) McAnelly is a nationally recognized and well-regarded upstream, midstream and deal lawyer consistently ranked in *Chambers USA* for the last 16 years. As co-chair of the firm’s oil and gas practice and with more than 30 years of industry experience, he represents a broad, diverse client-base ranging from majors, independents, oilfields services, private-equity and their portfolio companies in a broad spectrum of transactions including the purchase, sale, restructuring and/or financing of exploration and producing properties, processing plants, production and storage facilities and pipeline systems. With the emergence of the energy transition and given his broad oil and gas experience, he is advising on numerous carbon capture projects, including real property rights and commercial issues involving enhanced oil recovery and CO2 sequestration.

With a stellar reputation for his knowledge and work throughout the energy industry, JJ also regularly advises creditors and debtors in financial restructurings, distressed investments and acquisitions, as well as Chapter 11 proceedings and “363” sale processes.

Recognized by a leading legal publication for doing “a great job with clients,” JJ also utilizes his vast experience to assist with the formation of joint ventures, “drillcos” and partnerships for the funding, acquisition, operation and development of energy projects. This skillset includes drawing on his finance practice experience representing commercial banks, investment banks and hedge funds in energy lending. Once completed, he further assists clients with day-to-day operational concerns.

Industries

Energy

Finance

Infrastructure

Practices

Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage

Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG)

Financial Restructuring

Infrastructure Development

Finance

Oil & Gas

Private Equity

Public Lands & Resources

Water Management

Transactions

Midstream Transactions

Upstream Transactions

Mergers & Acquisitions

Credentials

Education

- Tulane University, J.D., 1993
- Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut, B.B.A., 1990, *with honors*

Bar Admissions

- Texas

Chambers Global

- Energy: Oil & Gas (Transactional), 2011 – 2024

Chambers USA

- Nationwide Energy: Oil & Gas (Transactional), 2010 – 2024
- Nationwide Energy & Natural Resources, 2009

The Legal 500 United States

- Energy Transactions: Oil and Gas, 2017 – 2024
- Energy: Transactions, 2012 – 2013

American City Business Journals

- *Houston Business Journal*, Who's Who in Energy, 2013 – 2016

Delinian Limited

- *IFLR1000 Financial & Corporate and M&A Guide*, 2018 – 2024

Euromoney Institutional Investor PLC

- *Expert Guides to the World's Leading Energy and Natural Resource Lawyers*, 2013

BL Rankings

- *Best Lawyers*, Energy Law, 2014 – 2025
- *Best Lawyers*, Oil and Gas Law, 2018 – 2025
- *Best Lawyers*, Natural Resources Law, 2019 – 2025
- Houston Lawyer of the Year, Energy Law, 2022
- Houston Lawyer of the Year, Oil and Gas Law, 2018
- Houston Lawyer of the Year, Natural Resources Law, 2025

Lawdragon Inc.

- *Lawdragon 500 Leading Dealmakers in America*, Corporate & Securities and Private Equity, Especially Energy, 2024 – 2025
- *Lawdragon 500 Leading US Energy Lawyers*, Energy Transactions, 2023 – 2024

Thomson Reuters

- *Texas Super Lawyers*, 2003 – 2005, 2013 – 2019

Law Business Research Ltd.

- *Lexology Index's Thought Leaders: USA*, Energy – Oil & Gas, 2025
- *Who's Who Legal*, Energy – Oil & Gas Global Leader, 2023
- *Who's Who Legal*, Energy – Energy Global Elite Thought Leader, 2023 – 2024

Resources

The Way Forward: A Legal and Commercial Primer on Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Sequestration

Article

The Future of Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage Projects

Video

Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Sequestration Webinar

Video

Storage Wars: Ownership of Subsurface Salt Cavern Storage Rights

Update

Texas UIC Class VI Update: Proposed Amendments to 16 TAC Ch. 5

Update

A Line in (and Under) the Sand

Article

Publications & Speeches

- "A Line In (and Under) the Sand," *Texas Bar Journal*, March 2024.
- "Pore Space Leasing and Land Issues," IEL Conference on Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage, October 2023.
- "Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Sequestration Webinar," Kay Bailey Hutchison Center for Energy Law & Business, February 2021.
- "The Way Forward: A Legal and Commercial Primer on Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Sequestration," *The Texas Journal of Oil, Gas, and Energy Law* Volume 16:1 2021, Page 43.
- "Areas of Mutual Interest Agreements – Certain Legal Issues to Consider in Texas," *Section Report of the Oil, Gas & Energy Resources Law Section of the State Bar of Texas*, Volume 41, Number 3/ Spring 2017.
- "A&D Buyside," *Oil & Gas Investor*, May 2016.
- "New Twists On An Old Structure," *Oil & Gas Investor*, August 1, 2015.
- "Coming to America: Commercial and Legal Aspects of Foreign Investment in U.S. Oil and Gas Projects," *60th Annual Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Institute*, July 2014.
- "Recent Legal Developments in the Roaring Utica Shale," *Oil & Gas Financial Journal*, May 8, 2014.
- "Overview of Trades: Joint Exploration and Joint Venture Agreements," *Meeting of the American Association of Professional Landmen*, June 2012.