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# Kevin C. Abbott

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## Employment

**Law Office of Kevin C. Abbott** –January 2020 to present

**Reed Smith LLP** - Partner 2000-2016; Senior Counsel 2016-2019

**Thorp Reed & Armstrong** – Associate 1983-1990; Partner 1990-2000

**University of Pittsburgh School of Law** – served as Executive Director of the Energy Law & Policy Institute from 2015-2019; currently serving as Professor of Practice by the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. Kevin regularly teaches Oil and Gas Law and Media Law.

## Clerkships

Honorable Leroy J. Contie, Jr., U.S. Court of Appeals – Sixth Circuit

Honorable Leroy J. Contie, Jr., U.S. District Court – Northern District of Ohio

## Honors

- Recognized by the Best Lawyers in America© in the field of Energy Law.
- Named by Pennsylvania Super Lawyers in the energy law field every year since 2004 and in Super Lawyers Business Edition in the area of Energy & Natural Resources.
- Recipient of the Pittsburgh Business Times' Energy Leadership Award and recognized in its "Who's Who in Energy" list every year.
- Recognized as a Top Rated Lawyer in Energy/Environmental Law by American Lawyer Media and Martindale-Hubbell.<sup>TM</sup>
- Earned Martindale-Hubbell.<sup>TM</sup> 's highest rating of AV Preeminent, the highest possible rating in legal ability and ethical standing.

## **Education**

University of Pittsburgh School of Law, 1981, J.D., magna cum laude, Member and Notes Editor of the Law Review; Elected to Order of the Coif

Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 1978, B.A., magna cum laude

Earned certificate in leadership training from Wharton School of Business.

Earned certificate from American Arbitration Association in Advanced Case Management Issues

Attended two week-long intensive trial training and advocacy.

Earned diploma for completing Leadership Pittsburgh program.

## **Professional Admissions and Qualifications**

Pennsylvania

Ohio (inactive)

West Virginia (inactive)

## **Court Admissions**

All State and Federal Courts – Pennsylvania

All State and Federal Courts – Ohio

All State and Federal Courts – West Virginia

U.S. Court of Appeals – Third Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals – Fourth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals –Sixth Circuit

## **Professional Affiliations**

Energy and Mineral Law Foundation – Board of Trustees

Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation – Board of Trustees

Indiana University of Pennsylvania Alumni Association – Served for seven years on the Board of Directors

## **Publications**

June 2019 – “Certification of Royalty Claims Under Oil and Gas Leases as Class Actions”

Co-Author: Amy Kerlin

September 2018 - "Ethical Hot Spots – Ethical Issues in Energy Litigation"

Co-Author: Jennifer M. Thompson

October 2017 - "Federal Court in Ohio Rejects Another Attack on Ohio Supreme Court’s Ruling on the Ohio Dormant Mine"

*Reed Smith Client Alerts*; Co-Authors: Nicolle R. Snyder Bagnell, Stefanie Lepore Burt

July 2017 - "Attempt to Avoid Ohio Supreme Court’s Ruling in Corban Rejected by Federal Court in Ohio"

*Reed Smith Client Alerts*; Co-Authors: Nicolle R. Snyder Bagnell, Stefanie Lepore Burt

July 2017 - "How Do Dormant Mineral and Marketable Title Acts Affect Ownership of Oil & Gas Rights?"

*63rd Annual Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Institute*

November 2015 - "Ohio Supreme Court Issues Second Key Decision Interpreting Dormant Mineral Act"

*Reed Smith Client Alerts*; Co-Authors: Nicolle R. Snyder Bagnell, Lucas Liben, Thomas J. Galligan

November 2015 - "Pennsylvania Supreme Court Reinstates Verdict in Favor of Media Defendants: Decision Ends Long-Running Newspaper Libel Case"

*MLRC Media Law Letter*; Co-Author: Justin H. Werner

September 2015 - "Recent Developments in Royalty Litigation in the Shale Plays"

*Center for American and International Law*; Co-Authors: Nicolle R. Snyder Bagnell, Thomas J. Galligan

September 2014 - "Ohio Appeals Court Finds Leases To Be Valid"

*Reed Smith Client Alerts*

July 2014 - "Dual-Purpose Leases in Pennsylvania: What Does ‘or’ Mean?"

*The Legal Intelligencer*; Co-Authors: Nicolle R. Snyder Bagnell, Lucas Liben

June 2014 - "6th Circuit Win in Oil and Gas Lease Dispute"

*Reed Smith Client Alerts*; Co-Authors: Justin H. Werner, Nicolle R. Snyder Bagnell

2009-2013 - "Pennsylvania Annual Report on Oil and Gas Legal Developments"

*Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation and the American Bar Association Section of Environment, Energy and Resources*; Co-Author: Nicolle R. Snyder Bagnell

August 2012 - "Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania Strikes Down Zoning and Setback Waiver Provisions Of "Act 13" Oil and Gas Legislation"

*Reed Smith Client Alert*

March 2012 - "Two Significant Cases Impacting the Oil and Gas Industry in Pennsylvania"

*Reed Smith Client Alerts*

December 2011 - "Scranton Times Wins Defense Verdict On Retrial After First Trial Vacated Due to Judge's Appearance of Impropriety"

*MediaLawLetter*

December 2010 - "Leasing and Development in the Marcellus Shale Region: Avoiding the Pitfalls"

*Energy & Mineral Law Foundation*; Co-Author: Ariel Nieland Forbes

November 2009 - "Pa. Supreme Court Vacates \$3.5M Judgment Due to Appearance of Impropriety By Judges"

*MLRC MediaLawLetter*

September 2004 - "Protecting Pipelines, Storage Fields, Wells and Other Facilities From Encroachments"

*Reed Smith Client Alerts*; Co-Author: Nicolle R. Snyder Bagnell

September 2004 - "Protecting Pipelines, Storage Fields, Wells and Other Facilities From Encroachments"

*Society of Petroleum Engineers, SPE 91458*; Co-Author: Nicolle R. Snyder Bagnell

2002 - "Can a Right-of-Way for Electric Transmission or Gas Pipelines Be Used to Install Fiber Optic Lines without Paying Additional Compensation to the Landowner?"  
*22 Energy & Mineral Law Inst. Ch. 3*

1997 - "Gas Purchase Contracts Today: A Whole New Ballgame"

*18 Energy & Mineral Law Inst. Ch. 6*

1997 - "Money for Nothing – Shut-In Royalty Clauses in Oil and Gas Leases"

*16 Energy & Mineral Law Inst. Ch. 15*

1993 - "Dispute Resolution by Minitrial: How It Works"

*14 Energy & Mineral Law Inst. Ch. 9*

1992 - "Alternative dispute resolution has potential to offer new solutions"

*Pittsburgh Business Times*

1990 - "A Young Lawyer's Guide to Answering a Complaint in Pennsylvania"

*At Issue, Pennsylvania Young Lawyers*

1990 - "Can You Keep a Secret?"  
*The Practical Lawyer*

**Speaking Engagements**

June 2019 - 40th Annual Institute Energy Mineral Law Foundation, Washington, D.C.  
"Certification of Royalty Claims Under Oil and Gas Leases as Class Actions"

September 2018 - Center for American and International Law, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
"Ethical Hot Spots – Ethical Issues in Litigating Energy Disputes"

July 2017 - 63rd Annual Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Institute, Santa Fe,  
New Mexico

March 2017 - Energy Week Law and Policy Forum: Oil and Gas Production and  
Transportation Panel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

April 2016 - Energy Law & Policy Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

September 2015 - Center for American and International Law, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

July 2015 - Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association's 23rd Annual Media Lawyers  
Conference, Hershey, Pennsylvania  
"Defamation & Invasion of Privacy Update"

June 2014 - Energy & Mineral Law Foundation's 35th Annual Institute, White Sulphur  
Springs, West Virginia  
"The Shale Play – An Update on Recent Trends in Royalty Claims and Emerging Issues  
Surrounding Get Gas and NGLS"

August 2013 - University of Pittsburgh School of Law, 2013 Energy Law & Policy  
Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
"Land Use, Leasing, and Title Issues in Energy Law"

May 2012 - Energy & Mineral Law Foundation's "Resolving Title Issues in Shale  
Development" Conference, Wheeling, West Virginia  
"Recording Requirements and Local Issues in the Marcellus and Utica Shales States"

November 2011 - TechLaw Fall Conference, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
"Understanding And Dealing With The Regulatory, Development, And Production Issues  
In The United States"

June 2011 - AAPL's 57th Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts  
"Oil and Gas Leasing in the Marcellus Shale Region: 'Post-Production Cost'"

June 2011 - LexisNexis Seminar, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
"Emerging Issues in the Law of Marcellus Shale"

May 2011 - Energy & Mineral Law Foundation Conference, Farmington, Pennsylvania  
"Condemnation in the Natural Gas Industry: Who Can Take What, When, and How  
Much Will It Cost"

April 2011 - University of Pittsburgh Law Review and the Innovation Practice Institute,  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
"Recent Decisions Affecting the Development of the Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania"

December 2010 - Energy & Mineral Law Foundation and Rocky Mountain Mineral Law  
Foundation, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
"Leasing and Development in the Marcellus Shale Region: Avoiding the Pitfalls"

October 2009 - Energy & Mineral Law Foundation's 34th Mineral Law Conference,  
Lexington, Kentucky  
"Royalty Litigation in Pennsylvania: Tawney with a Twist"

2009 - Pennsylvania Oil & Gas Association  
"Minimum Royalty Act Litigation"

2007 - Energy & Mineral Law Foundation's Winter Workshop  
"Condemnations Under The Natural Gas Act"

2007 - American Gas Association Legal Forum  
"Protecting Rights Of Way And Easements For Pipelines And Related Facilities Against  
Encroachments"