

Chambers USA Recognizes Gordon Arata Montgomery Barnett Practice Groups and Lawyers

MAY 5, 2020

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA—May 5, 2020—*Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* has again recognized Gordon Arata Montgomery Barnett practice groups and lawyers, including them among the top law firms for Construction; Energy & Natural Resources: Oil & Gas; and Litigation: General Commercial. The publication is widely regarded as the most reliable and intensively researched of all lawyer rating directories.

Chambers described the firm's Energy & Natural Resources practice as an "Experienced oil and gas group that draws on a wealth of industry expertise in high-value transactions and complex litigation. Transactional expertise includes acquisition, leasing and financing work for oil and gas companies and associated title matters. Also offers strengths in regulatory matters, with significant experience representing clients before various regulatory bodies as well as state and federal courts."

A client appreciated the firm's "ability to assess legal exposure and to chart a course that will yield the best result ... [the group is] diligent, thorough and very experienced." Another considered the firm to be "well versed in all facets of offshore oil and gas," and "great at working through problems together and arriving at solutions."

- "Bob Duplantis has longstanding experience in energy-related litigation and is considered to be 'a dean of the oil and gas Bar.' An interviewee compliment[ed] his 'great situational analytical skills.'"
- "Peck Hayne is 'incredibly bright and thorough in his approach to oil and gas matters,' reports a client. His transactional expertise covers purchase and sale of energy assets, mineral leases and title advice."
- "Cynthia Nicholson has expertise handling onshore and Outer Continental Shelf regulatory and transactional matters. A client refers to her as 'a problem solver who is creative in arriving at solutions and makes great recommendations.'"

Regarding the firm's Litigation practice, Chambers noted that the group was known for undertaking "an array of contract, employment and zoning litigation and offers strength handling complex tax disputes." Chambers went on to observe that the firm "[r]egularly handles litigation arising from the energy sector...[and] also frequently retained to advise on the defense of consumer class actions. A client commented that the team is "efficient and produces high-quality work."

- "Ewell Eagan represents banking, energy, healthcare and construction sector clients in an array of disputes, including multidistrict litigation. A source reports that he is 'very strong in terms of his strategic judgment and is able to help guide our strategy.'"
- "Howard Sinor is regularly called upon by clients for representation in complex litigation, including class action disputes. He offers particular expertise handling the full array of disputes arising from construction projects."

Chambers also recognized Michael Botnick for his representation of clients in construction law: "**Michael Botnick** advises public and private sector clients on a variety of projects. His transactional practice is complemented by his handling of construction arbitration. One client notes: "*He is always thoroughly prepared and demonstrates a mastery of legal issues.*"

Gordon Arata Montgomery Barnett, with offices strategically located in Louisiana and Texas, continues to evolve to meet the demands of its clients across the Gulf Coast and beyond. The firm represents savvy clients across a wide array of practice areas and industries, including energy, construction, finance, banking, real estate tax, employment, bankruptcy and creditors rights, chemical, manufacturing, maritime, telecommunications and public utilities. The firm is a member of Primerus, an International Society of Law Firms.