

Partner

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Practice Areas

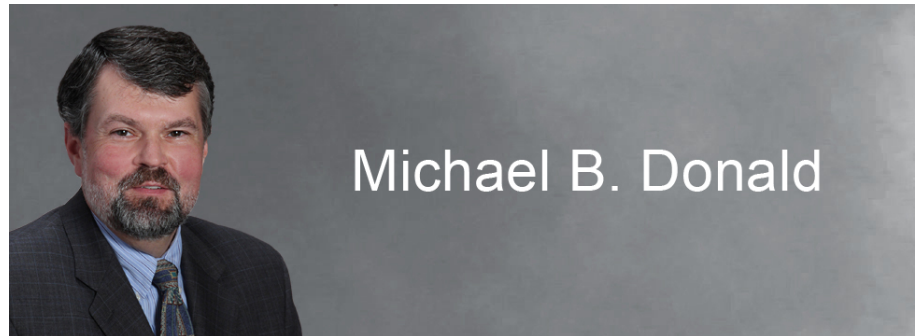
Business & Commercial
Litigation
Construction
Energy
Energy Policy
Energy, Environment &
Natural Resources
Environmental & Toxic Torts
Green Law & Sustainability

Bar Admissions

Louisiana, 1985
Texas, 1995

Education

Paul M. Hebert Law Center,
Louisiana State University,
J.D., 1985
Tulane University, B.A. in
History and Latin American
Studies, 1982, with honors



Michael Donald is partner in the firm's Business & Commercial Litigation Practice Group and practices from the firm's Houston office. He serves as co-chair of the firm's Energy Industry Team.

Mr. Donald serves clients in the oil and gas, electric utilities, natural gas transmission, mining, and transportation industries, and recently served as counsel on several interstate and intrastate pipeline and storage projects that involved salt dome and depleted reservoir matters. He has also served as trial counsel on condemnation/expropriation litigation in Louisiana and Texas.

Within the area of environmental litigation, Mr. Donald has specific experience with matters involving private cost recovery and citizen action suits, subsurface trespass, groundwater contamination, migration of hazardous chemicals, property value diminution, environmental audit supervision, and risk-based corrective actions. His experience includes serving as trial counsel in environmental litigation cases involving jurisdictional, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) enforcement. Mr. Donald has vast knowledge concerning carbon capture and storage, specifically the geologic sequestration of carbon dioxide. Mr. Donald authored Act 512 which was signed into law July 10, 2009, establishing the Louisiana Geologic Sequestration of Carbon Dioxide Act.

Mr. Donald has been recognized in "*Chambers USA*-America's Leading Lawyers for Business" in the areas of energy and also has an AV Peer Review rating in Martindale Hubbell.

A 1985 graduate of the Paul M. Hebert Law Center, Louisiana State University, Mr. Donald served as a law clerk to the Honorable Donald E. Walter, United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana,

from 1985–1987.

Noteworthy

- Recognized in "*Chambers USA – America's Leading Lawyers for Business*" in the areas of Energy & Natural Resources: Oil & Gas and Energy & Natural Resources: Utilities (also listed in 2010)
- **AV® Peer Review Rating in Martindale Hubbell**

Presentations

- "UT Law's 2010 Geologic Storage Policy: Federal Impacts, Commercial Opportunities"
University of Texas at Austin School of Law's CLE Conference on Carbon and Climate Change, Austin, Texas, February 16, 2010
- "How Will Cap & Trade and Green Legislation Affect My Plant?"
New Solutions to Industry's Greatest Challenges Conference & Exposition Program, Greater Baton Rouge Industry Alliance, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, January 27, 2010
- "Carbon Sequestration: Resource Management through the Storage of Carbon Dioxide in Geologic Structure"
56th Annual Louisiana Mineral Law Institute, April 3, 2009
- "Update on the Regulation of Intrastate Pipelines and Gas Gatheters in Texas"
6th Annual Gas & Power Institute Seminar, The University of Texas School of Law, September 27, 2007
- "Soil Remediation"
Society of Petroleum Engineers Seminar, April 29, 2003
- "Damages, Remediation & Other Remedies Involving Property in Oil & Gas Cases"
Louisiana Professional Landmen's Association Seminar, February 21, 2003
- "Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan Revisions for E&P Operations"
December 5, 2002
- "Damages, Remediation & Other Remedies Involving Property in Oil & Gas Cases"
Safety & Environmental Study Group for the Society of Petroleum Engineers, Houston, Texas, October 9, 2002

- "Remedies in Oil & Gas Cases: From Specific Performance to Damages and Beyond"
Louisiana Mineral Law Institute, April 4, 2002
- "On the Vanguard of Environmental Evolution: A Move Toward Industry Self-Regulation With an Emphasis on Energy Sector E&P Operations"
Society of Petroleum Engineers Videoconference, November 2001
- "Louisiana Construction Contracting for Public Entities"
June 13, 2001

Memberships

- International Association of Oil & Gas Producers (Member)
- Louisiana Bar Foundation (Fellow)
- Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Institute (Member)

Court Admissions

U.S. Supreme Court, 1990

5th Cir., 1988

E.D. La., 1991

M.D. La., 1989

W.D. La., 1987

E.D. Tex., 1997

N.D. Tex., 1991

S.D. Tex., 1998

Fed. Cl., 1998