



**Braden L. Christopher** | Member

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**LICENSURE** PA | WV  
**EDUCATION** J.D. West Virginia University

Braden Christopher focuses his practice in the area of energy law and specifically energy transactions. He also has experience in energy litigation in the oil and gas industry.

### REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Worked extensively with in-house legal teams and landmen at production and midstream companies to analyze issues and draft appropriate documents such as contracts, deeds, leases, ratifications, assignments, easements, affidavits, mortgage subordination agreements, purchase and sale agreements, settlement agreements, surface use agreements, water sales agreements, road relocation agreements, reclamation agreements, and meter site agreements

Represented seller of E&P assets for \$1 Million

Counsel for production company in trade transaction of E&P assets

Helped midstream company's in-house legal team to manage supply chain issues by addressing contractor disputes, providing risk assessments under existing contracts, and drafting various documents including master service agreements, notice to cure letters, and termination letters

Litigated land and title matters including approximately 40 partition actions and several missing heirs petitions, working interest declaratory judgment matters, summary proceedings, and disputes over property lines

Drafted numerous complaints, motions, briefs, and legal research memoranda associated with land and title litigation matters

Defended midstream company in litigation regarding a compressor station, including working directly with the client on substantive and operational issues

Represented clients in litigation involving various contract disputes, including access to a surface estate, recoupment of royalty overpayments, and validity of a forum selection clause

Assisted with case in federal court, including the drafting of a legal brief in support of a motion seeking injunctive relief, against a local municipality that denied a permit to conduct seismic testing and subsequently passed a restrictive ordinance seeking to regulate such testing

Participated in appellate matter, including the drafting of the appellee's brief, involving oil and gas

interests, interpretation of oil and gas severance documents, and application of intestacy law

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

2013 Steptoe & Johnson PLLC

2012-2013 Rose Padden & Petty L.C.

2010-2011 Summer Law Clerk, Judge Steve P. Leskinen, Court of Common Pleas of Fayette County, PA

## **RECENT PUBLICATIONS / SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

Pennsylvania's Dawning Solar Industry: What Every Developer Should Know

### **WHITEPAPERS**

"Medical Marijuana in Pennsylvania: What Employers Should Know," PIOGA Press, February 3, 2020

### **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

"Getting Old and Finding a New Lease on Life," Shale Insight Conference, October 23, 2019

"Be Careful What You 'Assume' – Risks Associated with Oil & Gas Contracts," IEL Energy Transactions Conference, October 10, 2019

"Getting Old and Finding a New Lease on Life," IEL 10th Law of Shale Plays Conference, September 2, 2019

## **MEMBERSHIPS AND AWARDS**

### **PROFESSIONAL**

2021 Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch

CALI Award for Sales and Secured Transactions, Spring 2012

Senior Editor of the Year, West Virginia Law Review, Volume 114

Senior Editor, West Virginia Law Review, Volume 114

Associate Editor, West Virginia Law Review, Volume 113

Graduated magna cum laude, University of Colorado