



PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

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ROBIN FREDRICKSON

Robin Fredrickson, a retired partner of Latham & Watkins, is a Lifetime Achievement Award honoree for the 2022 Texas Legal Awards.

Fredrickson shared with Texas Lawyer some of the highlights of her career, how the profession has changed and her advice for up-and-coming attorneys.

Answers have been edited for length and clarity.

What are the moments that have defined your legal career?

There were many moments that defined my career, probably too many to name. Starting with the obvious, the deals. I have been fortunate to advise on hundreds of transactions throughout my career. I don't believe in cookie-cutter deals since everyone is different, with different people, personalities, strategies, goals, etc., but the following stand out as being pretty pivotal for me: representing Bruin E&P Partners in the \$1.4 billion acquisition by Bruin Williston Holdings of the operated assets in the Williston Basin of Halcón Resources; representing Hess Corporation's \$5.35 billion sale of a 50% stake in its Bakken midstream assets to Global Infrastructure Partners; representing Anadarko in the \$2.3 billion sale of its Eagle Ford assets to Sanchez Energy; representing EXCO Resources in

numerous transactions and in two of the initial upstream joint ventures in the industry; and representing Freeport-McMoRan Oil & Gas's (a subsidiary of Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold) \$3.1 billion sale of its Eagle Ford Shale assets to Encana Oil & Gas.

I also think that the moments where I have been hired by those who have previously been on the other side of the negotiating table stand out. It's always a "pinch me" moment, when someone else recognizes the good work that you're doing for someone else and then wants you to represent them. I found that the relationships and reputation that you build in the industry are really what make you stand out.

What aspects of the profession have changed, and what aspects have stayed the same, during your career?

Things have really changed since I started practicing law, mostly due to technological advances. I remember telling someone when the fax machine came out that it was an evil invention as it sped up everything on a deal. I had no idea at the time that things could become even faster and more immediate with the internet and emails! When I started my career, we did not even have personal computers! The main clients in my



Robin Fredrickson of Latham & Watkins.

practice also changed over the years, with more and more private equity and hedge fund investments in the energy industry. These folks came up with innovative ideas and structures for deals that made the practice even more exciting! What never changed in my practice was the importance of relationships (clients and otherwise) and mentoring. Having input into someone's career and trajectory in the industry could be, and remained, very rewarding.

What advice would you give a newly minted lawyer?

Be dedicated and loyal to the work, the clients and the people you work with, but find some way to relieve the stress and tension. The job is hard, but it's not life and death, so making time to do something for yourself every once in a while is good for the soul.