

Look Before You Lease – Getting an Attorney

<http://lookbeforeyoulease.wordpress.com>

There are many Attorneys' in Ohio interested in working with landowners on oil and gas leases. You should know that while many Attorneys are working hard to gain experience in this field, as of 2011 many are not fully qualified to help you write a protective lease agreement. As law offices are building their expertise and getting trained, you may end up working with an attorney who is not local to your community. In many cases the benefit of choosing a qualified attorney outweighs the disadvantage of not having them close by.

Choosing an Attorney

1. If you already have an Attorney ask them about their experience.
 - a. Do they have other clients they have written leases for?
 - b. What seminars and trainings have they taken on Oil and Gas issues?
 - c. How many years have they practiced this type of law?
 - d. Are they currently representing or working with any Oil and Gas companies?
 - i. If they are, make sure the company(s) they are working with do not hold any interest in the company you are planning to work with.
 - e. If they are unable to work with you on writing a lease, find out if they can refer you to a qualified Attorney.

2. If you do not currently have an Attorney
 - a. You may contact the Ohio Farm Bureau. Ohio Farm Bureau maintains a shortlist of qualified Oil and Gas Attorney's. Farm Bureau does not receive compensation from anyone on the list.

Contact Information:
Ohio Farm Bureau Federation
280 North High St, 6th floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Phone: (614) 249-2400
Fax: (614) 249-2200

 - b. Also contact your local Ohio State University Extension Office – Many extension agents are working with landowners who are interested in leasing their land or who may have already leased. They may be able to help you get in touch with an Attorney. <http://extension.osu.edu/locate-an-office>

 - c. Call the Look Before You Lease Group

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