

A WHITE PAPER PRESENTED BY

BUCKINGHAM & VEGA
LAW FIRM

The background of the entire page is a blue-tinted photograph of an oil pumpjack in an industrial setting. Overlaid on the left side of the pumpjack is a dark blue hexagonal shape. Inside this hexagon, there is a yellow icon of a single oil drop above a small flame. The text is positioned within and around this hexagon.

Dangers In The Oil Field:

*Helping Injured
Workers Hold Oil
And Gas Companies
Accountable*

Oil & Gas: A High-Impact Industry In The Southwest

- The oil and gas industry employs nearly 10 million people (5.6% of U.S. workforce).¹
- Texas and New Mexico are top producers.
- The Permian Basin – a vast oil-rich region in western Texas and southeastern New Mexico – accounts for nearly 40% of U.S. oil production.²



USA OIL
40%
FROM
TX & NM



OIL &
GAS
EMPLOYS
10M
NATION-
WIDE

¹ American Petroleum Institute, "How many jobs has the oil and natural gas industry created?," <https://www.api.org/oil-and-natural-gas/energy-primers/hydraulic-fracturing/how-many-jobs-has-the-oil-and-natural-gas-industry-created>

² The Railroad Commission of Texas, "Permian Basin," <https://www.rrc.texas.gov/oil-and-gas/major-oil-and-gas-formations/permian-basin/>



The Harsh Reality Of Oil Field Work

- Long hours, harsh conditions, dangerous equipment
- Often involve remote locations and high-pressure environments
- Injuries can derail your health, career and future



Injury & Fatality Statistics

3.4

**INJURIES PER
100 WORKERS**
in natural resources
annually³



1,189

**OIL & GAS
WORKERS**
killed between
2003–2013⁴

108

deaths per year
on average⁴

12.9

**PER 100,000
UPSTREAM
FATALITY RATE**
3.5x higher than
average⁵

³ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Injuries, Illnesses, and Fatalities" (2021), https://www.bls.gov/web/osh/table-1-industry-rates-national.htm#soj1n17_as_t1.f.5 (data for natural resources and mining industry).

⁴ U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Occupational Fatalities During the Oil and Gas Boom – United States, 2003–2013" (2015), <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6420a4.htm>.

⁵ Occupational Safety and Health Administration, "Regional Emphasis Program for the Upstream Oil and Gas Industry" (October 2019), https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/enforcement/directives/CPL_2_02-00-013A.pdf.

Common Hazards In Oil & Gas Work

Drilling and extraction

Transportation and vehicle accidents on rural highways

Heavy machinery accidents, including crush, strike and entrapment injuries

Falls from platforms, scaffolding or ladders

Fires and explosions from flammable vapors

Electrocution

Chemical exposure

Confined space risks



When Safety Takes A Back Seat

Many companies prioritize profits over safety.

Workers face pressure to cut corners.

Inadequate training and supervision are common.

Poorly maintained or malfunctioning equipment may play a role.

Safety violations by other workers or contractors can put everyone at risk.

Workers may lack proper protective gear or safety systems.

Speaking up about unsafe conditions is often discouraged or ignored.



Catastrophic Injuries That Can Result

Traumatic brain injuries

Spinal cord damage and paralysis

Amputations and fractures

Severe burns and disfigurement

Fatal Injuries

Legal Options After An Accident



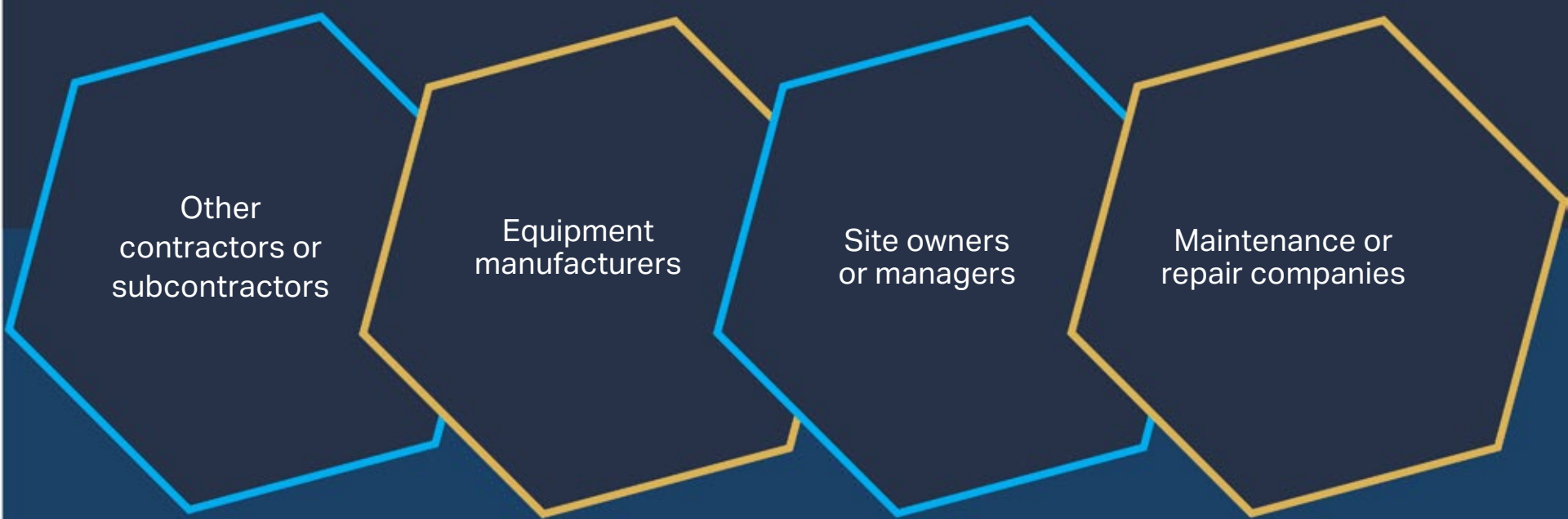
Workers' compensation

Personal injury lawsuit (against third parties)

Wrongful death claim (for surviving family members)

Third Parties That May Be Liable

Even if your employer provides workers' comp, you may still have grounds to sue:




Other
contractors or
subcontractors

Equipment
manufacturers

Site owners
or managers

Maintenance or
repair companies

A successful personal injury claim against third parties can provide critical financial support for your recovery. It can create meaningful change by holding negligent companies accountable for their actions.



What Compensation Can Cover

- Medical bills not covered by workers' comp
- Future medical care and rehabilitation
- Lost earning capacity
- Pain and suffering
- Punitive damages (in cases of extreme negligence)
- Funeral and loss-related damages in wrongful death cases



Taking On Powerful Opponents

Oil and gas companies have deep pockets and powerful legal teams.

You need a powerful legal team of your own.

Choose a law firm with the strength, experience and resources to fight back.



Why Injured Workers Trust Buckingham & Vega Law Firm

A legacy of proven success in oil and gas
injury cases

Nationally recognized attorneys

Serving clients across New Mexico, Texas
and Arizona

A team that treats you like family and fights
for your future



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toward justice.