



LAW360

2014 Rising Star Andrew Calder

From facilitating deals like a \$6 billion asset sale by GeoSouthern Eagle Ford Development LLC to helping establish Kirkland & Ellis LLP's Houston office, Andrew T. Calder's work over the last year has earned him a spot on *Law360's* list of top energy attorneys under 40.

Calder is a 35-year-old partner at Kirkland, specializing in mergers and acquisitions, corporate and securities law and corporate governance issues, focused particularly on the energy industry. He joins seven other young energy attorneys also named to the *Law360* Rising Stars list.

A Scottish native, Calder began his career in London with then-British firm Herbert Smith LLP, now the British-Australian Herbert Smith Freehills LLP, before moving to Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP in New York in 2004, later helping his former firm establish its Houston office in 2011.

He was once again part of the vanguard for his new firm in Texas, helping Kirkland with the opening of its own Houston office last month, moving across with another former Simpson Thacher M&A and private equity attorney, Rhett Van Syoc, to

join Kirkland's own Benjamin Clinger, who relocated from Chicago.

In a discussion with *Law360*, Calder praised his former firm, but said he had long admired Kirkland and its depth of talent, and couldn't pass up the great opportunity he had been given to help the firm establish itself in Houston — its seventh U.S. office and 12th global office. He noted the faith Kirkland put in its younger attorneys, which he said made the firm an "incredibly energetic" place to be.

"I was backed 100 percent by the firm in opening the Houston office — there was a lot of trust there," he said.

Throughout his career, Calder's clients have included a range of notable private equity and energy firms, including Blackstone Energy Partners, KKR & Co. LP and

Petrohawk Energy Corp., among others. He has aided his clients with a number of significant deals, headlined by the massive 2007 leveraged buyout of utility TXU Corp., now Energy Future Holdings Corp., by affiliates of KKR, TPG Capital LP and Goldman Sachs & Co. — a more than \$40 billion deal.

Continuing to build on his strong track record, he worked on a range of major deals over the past year, including — among a number of other deals valued in the hundreds of millions of dollars — GeoSouthern's

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November sale of its Eagle Ford Shale assets to Devon Energy Corp. for \$6 billion and KKR’s \$3.9 billion acquisition of industrial equipment maker Gardner Denver Inc., which closed in July.

Most of his work is focused on the energy industry, with Calder noting that the broad scope of the industry offered a wide variety of challenges for him to tackle.

“[Energy] is actually a very broad term for what we do,” he said.

“There’s upstream, midstream, downstream, utilities ... energy itself is a very broad category.”

Calder demurred on picking a particular highlight of his work over the past year or in his wider career, saying that many of the deals he works on are complicated and involve unique features, making them all “exciting in their own way.”

He also declined to mention specifics of his ongoing work, in deference to the sensitive nature of

the deals, but noted that being located in Houston had given him a constant stream of work opportunities and a fantastic group of clients to work with, saying he had been very fortunate to work on the deals he had throughout his career.

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