

# Special Award

## Nomination Form

Please attach this form to your one-page nomination for a Special Award. This award will be presented to the member(s) or group(s) who/which has made an extraordinary contribution to AAPL, the land profession, the industry, or the community. May include but is not limited to:

- **Education** – may be presented to a member who has achieved a level of unusual distinction in AAPL’s continuing education program as demonstrated by his/her contribution of time and service to the betterment of land professionals.
- **AAPL Committee Member Award** – may be presented to an AAPL Committee member who has greatly exceeded expectations.
- **Community Service** – may be presented to a member who has contributed greatly toward civic improvement in his/her local community.
- **Other** – may be presented to a member who has achieved unusual distinction or contributed significantly the betterment of land professionals in any other way deemed worthy of recognition.

NAME OF NOMINEE: Mr. Jack M. Wilhelm, J.D.

LOCAL ASSOCIATION AFFILIATION: Austin Professional Landmen's Association (APLA)

NOMINATED BY: Emily Alspaw, APLA President

Dear Awards Committee,

It is with great pleasure that I nominate Mr. Jack M. Wilhelm, J.D., founder of Wilhelm Law Firm, for consideration for the 2020-2021 Special Award: Education. In addition to performing his role as Education Chair with the Austin Professional Landmen's Association "APLA," Jack demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to educating the Landman community as well as to the general Oil and Gas industry.

Jack has served as the APLA Education Chair, who is responsible for programming APLA's monthly luncheon meetings, for the past 14 years, and I have had the privilege of working on the board with him for the last four. I have seen first hand his dedication to the Landman community. He has worked relentlessly to provide the APLA members with an extraordinary lineup of monthly speakers over the years, some of which include sitting RRC Commissioners, the Mayor of Austin, Oil and Gas law professors, Landmen, Attorneys, and Public Relations Speakers. He has an extensive network of professionals, and we have benefited from these relationships. In addition to his work organizing speakers, he has even been a speaker himself and presented to our members on topics like "Updates on Texas Oil & Gas Law," "Comparison of Texas and Louisiana Legal Systems," "Primer on Curing Title Defects in Title Opinions," and "Primer on Texas Probate Law." Jack truly enjoys providing these educational opportunities to our members and loves to share his knowledge as much as he can.

His dedication to educating the Landman community was even more evident during this past year. With the onset of Covid-19 and the crash of Oil & Gas prices, the APLA was faced with some difficult decisions, as were all organizations at the time. In particular, one was how do we best go about providing quality educational opportunities in a socially distanced world at an affordable price. Jack quickly volunteered a solution that the APLA should provide **weekly webinars** to our members and other AAPL local associations, including the Denver Association of Petroleum Landmen, Fort Worth Association of Professional Landmen, and Houston Association of Professional Landmen. Our group had never tried to put on weekly events, but Jack reassured us that he would be able to pull it off and that he did. Between the months of August-December, Jack had secured 12 speakers, completed 12 Zoom webinars, and provided 12 opportunities for our members and other AAPL local association members the chance to receive AAPL continuing education credits at no cost. As he has for the past 14 years, Jack went above and beyond the call of duty as APLA Education Chair and further proved his commitment to educating the Landman community during a time of uncertainty in the industry and the world.

Outside of the APLA and Landman community, Jack has provided his time and spirit to educating the general Oil and Gas industry. Jack was a guest lecturer at Louisiana State University on legal issues associated with geophysical operations, author of articles on the regulation of gas pipeline facilities for the Natural Gas Magazine, and has been a speaker at the AAPL, NADOA, and NALTA national conferences.

Jack's contributions to providing educational opportunities to the APLA, Landman Community, and general Oil and Gas industry make him a deserving candidate for this award.

Sincerely,

Emily Alspaw  
APLA President