

**Contact**

**Houston**

1200 Smith Street, Suite 1400  
Houston, Texas 77002-4310  
Tel: 713.658.1818  
Fax: 713.658.2553

**Atlanta**

191 Peachtree Street, N.E.,  
Forty-Sixth Floor  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
Tel: 404.659.1410  
Fax: 404.659.1852

**Philadelphia**

300 Conshohocken State Road  
Suite 570  
West Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Tel: 610.772.2300  
Fax: 610.772.2305

**San Antonio**

112 East Pecan Street, Suite  
1450  
San Antonio, Texas 78205  
Tel: 210.253.8383  
Fax: 210.253.8384

## Court Finds Rig Workers can be Independent Contractors

*E&E News*

March 5, 2019

In an article published on March 5, 2019 by *E&E News*, shareholder Annette Idalskis recent appellate victory for Premier Directional Drilling in *Parrish v. Premier Directional Drilling* is highlighted. Idalski chairs Chamberlain Hrdlickas national labor and employment practice group.

In this highly anticipated court case with broad implications for the oil industry, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals court unanimously concluded that directional drilling engineers can be classified as independent contractors and not employees. The Court reversed a lower courts finding that a group of workers for Houston-based Premier Directional Drilling LP were employees of the company. Idalski, who served as lead counsel for Premier, says, Oil and gas companies can now maintain contract classification for workers and preserve their business model without fear. *E&E News* subscribers may access the article [here](#).