



## *Charles Knobloch*

Computer Science Geophysicist | Inventor | Patent & Intellectual Property Attorney

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Charles Knobloch has spent over 35 years in the industry, over twenty of those years at Conoco-DuPont, including six years in Indonesia. Throughout his career, he has served in roles bringing together management of government, legal, and technical issues with purpose to enhance economic progress. His aspiration is to provide frameworks for step-change attraction of global investment in technology and oil & gas, including effective reduction of harmful regulations.

In law, Mr. Knobloch's base vehicle is as partner at the intellectual property law firm of Knobloch & Tripp, PLLC. Charles Knobloch has been selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*© 2017. Member, College of the State Bar of Texas.

In government affairs, he is past Chair of the State of Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists, designing and leading zero-based review of all agency regulations. He has advised on strategic oil & gas legal frameworks. He has been chair of the prestigious U.S. Bar – European Patent Office Liaison Council; 2016 Vice Chair of the International Patent Law & Practice Committee and 2016 Chair of the Subcommittee on Patent Enforceability Worldwide, Intellectual Property Owners Association; Board Member – Michigan Technological University, Industrial Advisory Board; past Chair, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center Network. Mr. Knobloch is admitted to practice law before the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, the United States District Court in the Southern District of Texas, admitted Patent Attorney to Practice before the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and admitted Attorney & Counselor at Law, State of Texas. U of H (law), Dip. Int'l Law – Russia (USD), European Community Law – Spain (College of William and Mary), Michigan Tech (Applied Geophysics, with honor).

Early in his career, he received the Society of Exploration Geophysicists - Roy Lindseth (Teknica) scholarship, the founding Michigan Tech Faculty Citation for his advancements in geophysics computing technology, as well as the Simon Frank Petroleum Law Scholarship. He is also recipient of the DuPont Engineering Excellence Award for advancements in seismic processing imaging technology and holds several patents in various technologies, including image processing, magnetostrictives, enhancing reservoir production, and geothermal.

In petroleum exploration, he added gas reserves in Indonesia. He served on their oil exploration Finding Leadership Team. Mr. Knobloch is 2018 Active Arena Chair, was chair of the Program Committee for the 2017 Offshore Technology Conference and served on the Oversight Committee for Offshore Technology Conference Asia, held in Malaysia. Active Arena Chair for 2018. Past Program Manager – DeepLook Consortium (using declassified technologies from national laboratories to apply in the oil industry). Past CEO of a company held by institutional investors to use NASA and Los Alamos patents for multi-phase oil & gas flow measurements using swept frequency acoustic interferometry. Inductee, Academy of Geological and Mining Engineering and Sciences. Past Finalist, Outstanding Young Texans (Jaycees), losing to now-Texas-Governor Greg Abbott.

Charles was previously married to Murtiana Suryawati Sorohadmodjo and has one daughter. Languages: basic Indonesian, basic German, English. He resides in Katy, Texas, near Houston. Advanced Amateur Radio license: KK5MS, x-YB0ANA, x-WB8UEH, past US commercial radiotelephone license. Advisory Board, Special Life Network. Hobbies: legal systems (oil & gas, intellectual property), complex adaptive systems, artificial intelligence, and advanced computer programming, plus iPhone apps.



## TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS

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June 27, 2017

Charles Knobloch, J.D., P.G.  
1519 Mission Springs  
Katy, TX 77450

Dear Mr. Knobloch,

Please let this letter serve as a note of appreciation with regard to your service with the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists (TBPG). Governor Rick Perry appointed you to the TBPG Board in March 2009. You continued to serve and completed your term in July 2017. During that time you served not only as a member of the Appointed Board, but you also served as Vice-Chairman and then Chairman. You had quite an impact on the functioning of the Appointed Board, the direction of the agency, and the regulation of the non-exempt public practice of geoscience in Texas.

This letter focuses on your service as Chairman and the outstanding process involving the TBPG's four-year rules review you coordinated. On January 14, 2013 you were elected by the Appointed Board to the position of Board Chairman. When you were elected, the Texas Legislature had just begun its 83<sup>rd</sup> regular session. TBPG had been the subject of a Performance Review conducted by the Legislative Budget Board (LBB).

During the 83<sup>rd</sup> regular session, the Legislature passed and Governor Rick Perry signed Senate Bill 138. Senate Bill 138 (SB 138) amended the Texas Geoscience Practice Act (Act), required the TBPG to work with other state agencies on processes related to referral of potential violations of the Act, and required TBPG to the staff of other state agencies on the how to file a complaint with the TBPG and the TBPG's complaint resolution process.

TBPG was also due for a four-year review of its rules as required by Texas Government Code §1002.039. Texas Government Code §1002.039 requires every state agency to review all of its rules for potential readoption, readoption with amendments, or repeal. A key component of the review is to perform an assessment of whether the reasons for initially adopting each rule continues to exist.

Over the next two years, you provided oversight and direction for the implementation of SB 138 and launched a process for the comprehensive review of TBPG's rules. TBPG's last rule review had concluded in December 2010, so TBPG needed to complete the task by December 2014.

Early in the process of working with other Appointed Board Members, staff, and stakeholders, you developed a draft plan/timeline and proposed, which the Appointed Board adopted, a set of "Guiding Principles" to provide the right focus for all involved.

The Guiding Principles emphasized that the rules must be consistent with the Act and necessary for the performance of the TBPG's duties, that reasons for each rule must still exist, that the rules have clarity, the ability to be consistently applied, are enforceable, include the statutory obligations and duties of the TBPG, and that the rules add value to our state and its people.

You, through the Guiding Principles, also emphasized using resources to ensure participation from all TBPG's stakeholders. To this end, TBPG held public hearings in conjunction with its regular Committee and Board meetings throughout the process. In addition, TBPG held four special public hearings across the state in Houston, Corpus Christi, Fort Worth and Midland. TBPG received direct verbal testimony and written comments on its rules and on proposed changes to the rules at an unprecedented level which has not since been matched. You also worked with me personally to develop a comprehensive set of rules review information for the public on the TBPG website that was updated throughout the process.

You proposed a set of changes throughout the rules that clearly distinguished the activities that may be performed by the agency versus activities that must be performed by the Appointed Board, consistent with another Guiding Principle and a much needed clarity in TBPG's rules.

Finally, through the Guiding Principles, you sought a net reduction in the TBPG's rules. We measured this by a "before and after" word count. TBPG's rules were reduced by approximately twenty-five percent.

Thank you again for all of your service to the TBPG. I wish you the very best in future endeavors.

Sincerely,



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