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**BALLENTINE JOINS ENERGY LAW FIRM BURLESON COOKE  
AS PARTNER; WILL FOCUS ON MIDSTREAM SECTOR**

**HOUSTON** – Robert S. Ballentine has joined the energy law firm of Burleson Cooke as a partner, and will concentrate his practice in the areas of commercial litigation and oil and gas law.

Ballentine’s practice will focus primarily on the midstream sector of the oil and gas industry, which includes the transportation, gathering, processing, marketing, and storage of petroleum commodities. He has more than 20 years of experience in oil and gas litigation, including royalty, exploration, and joint interest disputes. Most recently, Ballentine practiced in the commercial litigation section of Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P.

“While Bob has accumulated an across-the-board track record in the energy industry, he also has an extensive background in working with midstream companies in particular,” said managing partner Rick Burleson. “He’s one of the top litigators in his area, and has had a unique career and gained the sort of capabilities that are well-suited to the midstream sector.”

Licensed to practice law in both Texas and Oklahoma, Ballentine has represented large, publicly owned companies as well as smaller independent oil and gas companies in state and federal courts, arbitration proceedings, and before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

He earned his undergraduate degree from Brown University, his law degree from Southern Methodist University School of Law, and his LL.M. degree in Energy, Environmental and Natural Resources Law from the University of Houston Law Center. In addition, he is an adjunct professor at the University of Houston Law Center, where he teaches a course in energy law.

**About Burleson Cooke**

Burleson Cooke L.L.P. has earned a reputation as the energy law firm the energy industry goes to, and has grown significantly in recent years by focusing on and leveraging its core strengths. Serving clients in the upstream and midstream segments, it provides counsel to oil and gas producers, transportation companies, storage and processing businesses, and energy service providers. Burleson Cooke’s far-reaching experience includes mergers, acquisitions, and divestitures; finance; private equity; venture capital; securities; corporate governance and compliance; patents and intellectual property; title review; real estate; litigation; bankruptcy/restructuring and environmental. For further information, visit [www.burlesoncooke.com](http://www.burlesoncooke.com).

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