### Cover page for:

# **Preliminary Title Evidence**

Title Opinion prepared by:

James B. Blevins, Jr., Attorney at Law
Dated June 29, 2023
Opinion Ref. No. 20221332
Opinion Tract No. 12

# Group No. 2 Auction Tracts 6 - 8

(Stephens County, Oklahoma)

For July 10, 2023 auction to be conducted by:

Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc.

On behalf of:

Melany Levenson, as Co-Trustee, et al.

# JAMES B. BLEVINS, JR

George W. Velotta II Attorney at Law P.O. Box 1565 Purcell, OK 73080

June 29, 2023

Justin Landgraf 7 East Main St. Ardmore, OK 73401

Re: 20221332 (Tract 12)

The N/2 SW/4, LESS the South 66 feet of the SW4 NW/4 SW/4 and N/2 SE/4 SW/4 and E/2 NE/2 SW/4 SW/4 in Section 8, Township 2 South Range 7 West, I.M., Stephens County, Oklahoma.

#### To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to your request, I have examined Abstract of Title No. 133931 & 13931-A last certified to 08/10/22 at 07:59 AM by Stephens County Abstract Company. Pursuant to such examination, I am of the opinion that the condition of the title is as follows:

#### A) Surface Title:

The surface title is vested in:

2.888 acre or a 1/36 interest - Rothie Lane Cochran for life, rest to Taylor Jaye Cochran, Evan Lee Blankenship and Dalton Dean Blankenship equally, by virtue of a Final Decree filed November 17, 2011 in Book 4244 at Page 26;

2.888 acre or a 1/36 interest - Arthur Richard Brown 2013 Revocable Trust under Agreement dated the 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 2013, by virtue of a Quit Claim Deed filed July 18, 2013 in Book 4578 at Page 263 and a Memorandum filed August 26, 2013 in Book 4599 at Page 121;

1.4445 acre or a 1/72 interest - Virginia Rud, by virtue of a Final Decree filed June 20, 2013 in Book 4562 at Page 96 and a Quit Claim Deed filed November 6, 2006 in Book 3427 at Page 205;

4.3333 acre or a 1/24 interest - Arthur M. Brown, Jr., by virtue of a Final Decree filed February 28, 1984 in Book 1550 at Page 367;

2.888 acre or a 1/36 interest - Mary Roper Maupin, by virtue of a Final Decree filed December 4, 1984 in Book 1584 at Page 91;

2.888 acre or a 1/36 interest - John E. Roper, Jr., by virtue of a Final Decree filed December 4, 1984 in Book 1584 at Page 91;

2.888 acre or a 1/36 interest - Dale C. Delano and Ruth Delano, Trustees of the Dale C. and Ruth R. Delano 2000 Revocable Trust under Agreement dated the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April 2000, by virtue of a Quit Claim Deed filed June 30, 2000 in Book 2420 at Page 90 and a Memorandum of Trust filed June 30, 2000 in Book 2406 at Page 95;

- 2.888 acre or a 1/36 interest Sue Mosley, by virtue of a Final Decree filed March 27, 1968 in Book 994 at Page 84;
- 2.888 acre or a 1/36 interest Terry L. Askins, Trustee of the Charlotte Ruth Heffernan Trust, by virtue of a Warranty Deed filed July 21, 1987 in Book 1686 at Page 247;
- 12.0370 acre or a 25/216 interest Dana G. Ralls as Trustee of the Ralls Trust dated May 26, 1987 by virtue of a Final Decree filed May 16, 1989 in Book 1747 at Page 554;
- 12.0370 acre or a 25/216 interest Melany Levenson, Lisa Craven and Shelley Rinella, Successor Trustee of the Anne R. Green Revocable Trust, by virtue of a Quit Claim Deed filed February 27, 2002 in Book 2643 at Page 1 and an Affidavit of Successor Co-Trustee recorded February 21, 2020 in Book 5781 at Page 267; 12.0370 acre or a 25/216 interest Rosemary R. Fair, Trustee of the Rosemary R. Fair Revocable Trust, by virtue of a Quit Claim Deed filed May 4, 2002 in Book 2645 at Page 224;
- 19.7917 acre or a 2850/14976 interest Mary Lois Smith, 25/1872, by virtue of a Warranty Deed filed May 9, 1994 in Book 1919 at Page 247 and 375/14976 by virtue of a Final Decree filed December 7, 1999 in Book 2333 at Page 159 and 175/1152 by a Deed filed December 18, 1984 in Book 1585 at Page 941;
- 3.9931 acre or a 575/14976 interest Cecelia D. Beck and J.W. Beck, Jr., 375/14976 by virtue of a Final Decree filed December 7, 1999 in Book 2333 at Page 159 and 25/1872 by a Deed filed December 18, 1984 in Book 1585 at Page 941;
- 1.5626 acre or a 225/14976 interest Virginia Watson, 125/14976, by virtue of a Final Decree filed December 7, 1999 in Book 2333 at Page 159 and 25/3744 by a Deed filed December 18, 1984 in Book 1585 at Page 941;
- 1.5626 acre or a 225/14976 interest Johnny (John Calvin) Watson, 125/1497, by virtue of a Final Decree filed December 7, 1999 in Book 2333 at Page 159 and 25/3744 by a Deed filed December 18, 1984 in Book 1585 at Page 941;
- 1.5626 acre or a 225/14976 interest Jimmy Watson, 125/14976, by virtue of a Final Decree filed December 7, 1999 in Book 2333 at Page 159 and 25/3744 by a Deed filed December 18, 1984 in Book 1585 at Page 941;
- 1.3889 acre or a 25/1872 interest Julia Smith Watson, by virtue of a Deed filed December 18, 1984 in Book 1585 at Page 941;
- .6945 acre or a 25/3744 interest Robert F. Watson, by virtue of a Deed filed December 18, 1984 in Book 1585 at Page 941;
- .6945 acre or a 25/3744 interest J.B. Smith, Jr., by virtue of a Deed filed December 18, 1984 in Book 1585 at Page 941;
- .6945 acre or a 25/3744 interest Jack B. Smith and Mary Lois Smith Trustees of the Claudia Lee Smith La Mothe Trust, by virtue of a Deed filed December 18, 1984 in Book 1585 at Page 941;
- .6945 acre or a 25/3744 interest Jack B. Smith and Mary Lois Smith Trustees of the Lea Hallie Smith Trust, by virtue of a Deed filed December 18, 1984 in Book 1585 at Page 941;
- .6945 acre or a 25/3744 interest Jack B. Smith and Mary Lois Smith Trustees of the Charlene Cartwright Smith Trust, by virtue of a Deed filed December 18, 1984 in Book 1585 at Page 941;

.6945 acre or a 25/3744 interest - Jesse St. John Beck, by virtue of a Deed filed February 20, 2008 in Book 3659 at Page 152;

.6945 acre or a 25/3744 interest - Alice Shay Beck Zeck, by virtue of a Deed filed February 20, 2008 in Book 3659 at Page 152;

.6945 acre or a 25/3744 interest - Nathan Bristow Beck, by virtue of a Deed filed February 20, 2008 in Book 3659 at Page 152;

.6945 acre or a 25/3744 interest - Anna Cecelia Zeck, nee Beck, by virtue of a Deed filed February 20, 2008 in Book 3659 at Page 152;

2.8888 acre or a 1/36 interest – Pat F. Brown, by virtue of a Final Decree filed June 26, 1950 in Book 463 at Page 121;

2.8888 acre or a 1/36 interest – Clarabelle Wagnon, by virtue of a Final Decree filed June 26, 1950 in Book 463 at Page 121.

#### B) Mineral Ownership:

The minerals have been omitted by request.

#### C) Mortgages:

**NONE** 

### D) Taxes and Other Encumbrances:

2021 and all prior years' taxes are paid or cancelled pursuant to 68 O.S. § 24233, as amended.

#### E) Restrictive Covenants, Easements and Ordinances:

- 1) Statutory easement for roadway along Section line.
- 2) Easement Grant filed October 25, 1987 in Book 1695 at Page 157.
- 3) Right of Way filed November 3, 1927 in Book 188 at Page 315.
- 4) Decree Establishing Conservancy District filed June 17, 1963 in Book 858 at Page 220.
- 5) Right of Way Easement filed in Book 1111 at Page 67.
- 6) Telephone Easement in favor of Southwestern Bell and Telephone filed July 2, 1934 in Book 237 at Page 40.

#### F) Does this property have a legal right of access?: YES

#### G) Advisory:

**NONE** 

H) <u>Is the title marketable:</u> Yes- upon fulfillment of the below requirements.

## I) Requirements:

**REQUIREMENT No.1:** Virginia Rud, Arthur M. Brown, Jr., Mary Roper Maupin, John E. Roper, Jr., Virginia Sue Mosley, Mary Lois Smith, Cecelia D. Beck and J.W. Beck, Jr., Virginia Watson, Johnny (John Calvin) Watson, Jimmy Watson, Julia Smith Watson, Robert F. Watson, J.B. Smith, Jr., Alice Shay Beck Zeck, Nathan Bristow Beck, Anna Cecelia Zeck, nee Beck, Jesse St. John Beck, Pat F. Brown and

Clarabelle Wagnon, all single people, or joined by spouses if applicable, must execute any instrument conveying an interest in the subject property. Additionally, all formalities of execution must be properly completed.

**REQUIREMENT No.2:** Rothie Lane Cochran and Taylor Jaye Cochran, Evan Lee Blankenship and Dalton Dean Blankenship all single people, or joined by spouses if applicable, must execute any instrument conveying an interest in the subject property. Additionally, all formalities of execution must be properly completed.

**REQUIREMENT No.3:** The Trustees of the Arthur Richard Brown 2013 Revocable Trust under Agreement dated the 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 2013, must execute any instrument conveying an interest in the subject property. Additionally, all formalities of execution must be properly completed.

**REQUIREMENT No.4:** Dale C. Delano and Ruth Delano, Trustees of the Dale C. and Ruth R. Delano 2000 Revocable Trust under Agreement dated the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April 2000, must execute any instrument conveying an interest in the subject property. Additionally, all formalities of execution must be properly completed.

**REQUIREMENT No.5:** Terry L. Askins, Trustee of the Charlotte Ruth Heffernan Trust, must execute any instrument conveying an interest in the subject property. Additionally, all formalities of execution must be properly completed.

**REQUIREMENT No.6:** Dana G. Ralls, as Trustee of the Ralls Trust dated May 26, 1987, must execute any instrument conveying an interest in the subject property. Additionally, all formalities of execution must be properly completed.

**REQUIREMENT No.7:** Melany Levenson, Lisa Craven and Shelley Rinella, Successor Trustee of the Anne R. Green Revocable Trust, must execute any instrument conveying an interest in the subject property. Additionally, all formalities of execution must be properly completed.

**REQUIREMENT No.8:** Rosemary R. Fair, Trustee of the Rosemary R. Fair Revocable Trust, must execute any instrument conveying an interest in the subject property. Additionally, all formalities of execution must be properly completed.

**REQUIREMENT No.9:** Jack B. Smith and Mary Lois Smith, Trustees of the Claudia Lee Smith La Mothe Trust, must execute any instrument conveying an interest in the subject property. Additionally, all formalities of execution must be properly completed.

**REQUIREMENT No.10:** Jack B. Smith and Mary Lois Smith, Trustees of the Lea Hallie Smith Trust, must execute any instrument conveying an interest in the subject property. Additionally, all formalities of execution must be properly completed.

**REQUIREMENT No.11:** Jack B. Smith and Mary Lois Smith, Trustees of the Charlene Cartwright Smith Trust, must execute any instrument conveying an interest in the subject property. Additionally, all formalities of execution must be properly completed.

**REQUIREMENT No.12:** Obtain and file of record a Release of a Federal Tax Lien against Lea Hallie Smith filed February 14, 2011 in Book 4106 at Page 229.

**REQUIREMENT No.13:** As noted above John T. Holleman, Jr., is the record owner of an interest by the Final Decree rendered August 12, 1991. In the Estate of John T. Holleman, III it appears John T. Holleman, IV is claiming this interest. The Final Decree was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Stephens County Oklahoma January 25, 1993 and recorded in Book 1873 at Page 66 (257 of abstract). Submit for examination a valid recorded instrument or the valid recorded probate decree that distributes all of the interest of John T. Holleman, Jr. to John T. Holleman, III and further requirements will be made as necessary.

**REQUIREMENT No.14:** The Final Decree in the Estate of Shirley Jean Cochran was rendered less than ten years ago. Her successors are Rothie Lane Cochran for life, rest to Taylor Jaye Cochran, Evan Lee Blankenship and Dalton Dean Blankenship equally, as shown above. Submit for examination a full transcript of the proceedings in the probate of the estate of Shirley Jean Cochran.

**REQUIREMENT No.15:** Mary Roper was the owner of an undivided 1/45. At Page 225 of the abstract is the Final Decree of John E. Roper, her husband. It recites that he was the sole devisee of this interest in his decree by virtue of her Final Decree rendered in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma District Court Case NO. P-721146. It has been assumed this is correct though a copy of her decree was not examined and it does not appear that it was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Stephens County, Oklahoma. Submit for examination a certified copy of the Final Decree of Mary Roper that has been filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Stephens County, Oklahoma and if it varies further requirement will be made as necessary.

**REQUIREMENT No.16:** Obtain and file of record a Memorandum of Trust for the Rosemary R. Fair Revocable Trust, reflecting who the current trustees are as well as the fact that said trustees have the power and authority to convey and/or mortgage the captioned property, as required by Section 15.2 of the Oklahoma Marketable Title Act.

**REQUIREMENT No.17:** Jack B. Smith and Mary Lois Smith received an undivided interest by the Deed in Book 1585 at Page 941 as joint tenants. It is clear that Jack B. Smith is deceased and his estate is being probated or was probated in Stephens County Oklahoma District Court Cast NO. PB 2014-134. However, no instrument terminating the joint tenancy was examined. Submit for examination the valid recorded instrument terminating the joint tenancy of Jack B. Smith.

**REQUIREMENT No.18:** Obtain and file of record a Memorandum of Trust for the Claudia Lee Smith La Mothe Trust, reflecting who the current trustees are as well as the fact that said trustees have the power and authority to convey and/or mortgage the captioned property, as required by Section 15.2 of the Oklahoma Marketable Title Act.

**REQUIREMENT** No.19: Obtain and file of record a Memorandum of Trust for the Charlene Cartwright Smith Trust, reflecting who the current trustees are as well as the fact that said trustees have the power and authority to convey and/or mortgage the captioned property, as required by Section 15.2 of the Oklahoma Marketable Title Act.

**REQUIREMENT No.20:** Obtain and file of record a Memorandum of Trust for the Lea Hallie Smith Trust, reflecting who the current trustees are as well as the fact that said trustees have the power and authority to convey and/or mortgage the captioned property, as required by Section 15.2 of the Oklahoma Marketable Title Act.

**REQUIREMENT No.21:** The Final Decree in the Estate of Fred A. Brown filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Stephens County, Oklahoma in Book 4562 at Page 96 was rendered less than 10 years ago. Submit for examination a full certified transcript of the proceeding in said probate.

**REQUIREMENT No.22:** Judy Kruse, nee, Holleman caused an Affidavit to be filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Stephens County in Book 2014 at Page 938 that sets out that her interest is held by Kruse Minerals Incorporated. No instrument conveying this interest was examined and the Affidavit does not contain sufficient language to effect a conveyance. Submit for examination either a valid recorded conveyance to the corporation or a valid recorded disclaimer of any interest in the subject lands by the corporation.

**REQUIREMENT No.23:** Notice of Pending Suit filed January 7, 2010 in Book 3956 at Page 281. Instrument(s) such as this/these could provide the source for establishing a chain of record title and thus cloud(s) the title to the Property. Obtain and file of record valid instrument, pursuant to Title 16 O.S. Section 76, that extinguishes all claims created by this/these document(s).

**REQUIREMENT No.24:** Alice Thomas Choctaw Full Blood Roll #8517 received all of the SW¼ of Section 8, Township 2 South, Range 7 West as part of her Surplus Allotment by the Allotment Patent filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Stephens County Oklahoma February 8, 1932 in Book 178 at Page 628. Deeds from her heirs were filed in Book 225 at Page 408; Book 228 at Page 276 and Book 225 at Page 412. Suit to Quiet Title was filed May 7, 1971 in the District Court of Stephens County, Oklahoma Case NO. C-71-86 only as to a ¼ of the interest.

**REQUIREMENT No.25:** Constance Ralls was the owner of an undivided 175/1152 interest in the subject lands, or 15.79 net acres. However, she conveyed to Mary Lois Smith an undivided 15.79 acre interest in a 124.92 acre tract. That misdescription left her with approximately an undivided 1.64 acre interest. In all actuality this deed is also

incorrect in that it says less ten acres in the SW NW SE, when it should deduct the South one acre, correctly described as the South sixty-six feet. That actually shows the unconveyed interest amount. For the sake of brevity the actual amount is not really the problem, the fact that the shortage occurred is. The shortage would be calculated in the deed from Constance Ralls as follows:

- a.) The grant is of 15.79/124.92 or .1264 of 104 acres = 13.1456
- b.) The amount owned is 15.79/104 or .1518 of 104 acres = 15.7872

For that reason, Constance Ralls or her heirs, successors and assigns should be Defendants in Stephens County District Court Case NO. CV-2019-110G. Since it appears that Constance Ralls intended to convey all of her interest to Mary Lois Smith by the Warranty Deed filed in Book 1919 at page 247, she has been shown to be the owner of this interest. Submit for examination all of the valid recorded instruments that establish Mary Lois Smith to have succeeded to all of the interest of Constance Ralls in the subject lands, or if Constance Ralls, or her heirs, successors and assigns maintain their claim, then return this Title Opinion and it will be modified to demonstrate that ownership with further requirements as necessary.

**REQUIREMENT No.26:** The Surface Quit Claim Deed filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Stephens County on February 20, 2008 in Book 3659 at Page 152 misdescribed the subject lands. The problem arises from the part of the description that reads less 10 acres in the SW NW SW. That reduces the grant by 10 full acres, not the one acre described as the South 66 feet of that legal description. Submit for examination a valid recorded conveyance that conveys all of the interest of the four trusts in question to the beneficiaries.

**REQUIREMENT No.27:** Marilyn Sue Pike and Pat F. Brown Jr., Co-Trustees of the Pat F. and Bertha Brown Family Trust dated October 31, 1991 are claiming some interest in the subject lands by the Order of Distribution in the Estate of Pat F. Brown, Stephens County Oklahoma District Court Case No. PB-2022-01. Submit for examination the valid recorded instrument that establishes their claim or extinguishes it.

**REQUIREMENT No.28:** Clarabell Wagnon passed from this life February 5, 1920, testate, leaving as her sole devisee BancFirst, Duncan, Oklahoma, Trustee of the Clarabell B. Wagnon Trust dated August 17, 1984. Her estate was admitted into probate March 4, 2021 in Garvin County District Court Case NO. PB-2021-4 and that Order was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Stephens County Oklahoma on March 9, 2021 and recorded in Book 5937 at Page 79. Submit for examination a valid recorded Order distributing her estate to the Devisee and further requirements will be made as necessary.

#### Miscellaneous:

This opinion does not cover rights of parties in possession, rights arising out of adverse possession, mechanics, materialmens', or other liens not of record, unmatured special

assessments, filings under the uniform Commercial code, or other matters not ordinarily abstracted.

Accordingly, I submit the following general requirements:

- 1. You should ascertain whether there may be persons in possession of the subject property who may be claiming any rights inconsistent with ownership set forth above.
- 2. You should ascertain whether any work has been performed on the subject premises within the last 120 days, which might be the subject of materialmens' or mechanics' liens, as yet unrecorded.
- 3. You should ascertain, calling for a survey if necessary, that there are no encroachments upon the subject property by adjoining structures, that no structures upon the subject property encroach upon adjoining properties and that the property in question has access to a public road for the use and benefit of the owners thereof.
- 4. You should ascertain, hiring a qualified expert if necessary, whether or not hazardous material has ever been used on the property or in connection with the construction or maintenance of any building or structure on the property. The existence of urea-formaldehyde foam insulation or other potentially hazardous waste material may have an effect on the value and use of the subject property.

Sincerely:

James B. Blevins, Jr. O.B.A. #881 George W. Velotta II O.B.A. #9223