

DENISE VOIGT CRAWFORD  
SECURITIES COMMISSIONER

DON A. RASCHKE  
DEPUTY SECURITIES COMMISSIONER

Mail: P.O. BOX 13167  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-3167

Phone: (512) 305-8300  
Facsimile: (512) 305-8310



## Texas State Securities Board

208 E. 10th Street, 5th Floor  
Austin, Texas 78701-2407  
www.ssb.state.tx.us

JACK D. LADD  
CHAIRMAN

KENNETH W. ANDERSON, JR.  
MEMBER

BRYAN K. BROWN  
MEMBER

BETH ANN BLACKWOOD  
MEMBER

WILLIAM R. SMITH  
MEMBER

---

IN THE MATTER OF  
ARANSAS OIL COMPANY, INC.;  
WILLIAM EVERETT DURKEE;  
JOAN O'BRIANT; RICHARD RANSPOT;  
AND GEORGE HOUSEMAN

---

§  
§  
§  
§  
§

Order No. ENF-05-CDO-1588

TO: Aransas Oil Company, Inc.  
12001 N. Central Expressway  
Suite 1170  
Dallas, Texas 75243

William Everett Durkee  
12001 N. Central Expressway  
Suite 1170  
Dallas, Texas 75243

Joan O'Briant  
12001 N. Central Expressway  
Suite 1170  
Dallas, Texas 75243

Richard Ranspot  
12001 N. Central Expressway  
Suite 1170  
Dallas, Texas 75243

George Houseman  
12001 N. Central Expressway  
Suite 1170  
Dallas, Texas 75243

### EMERGENCY CEASE AND DESIST ORDER

This is your OFFICIAL NOTICE of the issuance by the Securities Commissioner of the State of Texas ("Securities Commissioner") of an EMERGENCY CEASE AND DESIST ORDER pursuant to Section 23-2 of The Securities Act, TEX. REV. CIV. STAT. ANN., art. 581-1 et seq. (Vernon 1964 & Supp. 2005) ("Texas Securities Act").

The Staff of the Enforcement Division ("the Staff") of the Texas State Securities Board ("the Securities Board") has presented evidence sufficient for the Securities Commissioner to find that:

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Aransas Oil Company, Inc. ("Respondent Aransas") maintains a last known address at 12001 N. Central Expressway, Suite 1170, Dallas, Texas 75243.
2. William Everett Durkee ("Respondent Durkee"), also known as Bill Durkee, maintains a last known address at 12001 N. Central Expressway, Suite 1170, Dallas, Texas 75243.
3. Joan O'Briant ("Respondent O'Briant") maintains a last known address at 12001 N. Central Expressway, Suite 1170, Dallas, Texas 75243.
4. Richard Ranspot ("Respondent Ranspot") maintains a last known address at 12001 N. Central Expressway, Suite 1170, Dallas, Texas 75243.
5. George Houseman ("Respondent Houseman") maintains a last known address at 12001 N. Central Expressway, Suite 1170, Dallas, Texas 75243.
6. Respondents are offering for sale to the public through advertisements in newspapers and Aransas' internet website at [www.aransasoil.com](http://www.aransasoil.com), working interests in the Legacy Reynaud, "Combs", "Combs B", and "Combs C" oil and gas leases; the "Mallet Land & Cattle Lease", a four-well production package in Cochran and Hockley County, Texas; and the "Pen Branch Unit", consisting of five producing wells and one water injection well in King County, Texas.
7. The working interests in the oil and gas leases are not registered by qualification, notification, or coordination, and no permit has been issued for their sale in Texas.
8. Respondents were not registered with the Securities Commissioner as securities dealers or agents at anytime material hereto.
9. In connection with the offer for sale of the above-described working interests, Respondents Aransas and Durkee are intentionally failing to disclose the following material facts:
  - a. William Everett Durkee was convicted of mail fraud on October 26, 1998, in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, Sherman Division; and
  - b. William Everett Durkee was the subject of an Emergency Cease and Desist Order issued by the Texas Securities Commissioner on January 30, 2004, In the Matter of First American Operating Company, a/k/a First American

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The above-described working interests in oil and gas leases are securities as defined by Section 4.A of the Texas Securities Act.
2. Respondents are violating Section 7 of the Texas Securities Act by offering securities for sale in Texas without the securities being registered with the Securities Commissioner.
3. Respondents are violating Section 12 of the Texas Securities Act by offering securities for sale in Texas without being registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 12 of the Texas Securities Act.
4. Respondents Durkee and Aransas are engaging in fraud in connection with the offer for sale of securities.
5. Respondents' conduct, acts, and practices threaten immediate and irreparable public harm.
6. The foregoing violations constitute bases for the issuance of an Emergency Cease and Desist Order pursuant to Section 23-2 of the Texas Securities Act.

ORDER

1. It is therefore ORDERED that Respondents immediately CEASE AND DESIST from offering for sale any security in Texas until the security is registered with the Securities Commissioner or is offered for sale pursuant to an exemption from registration under the Texas Securities Act.
2. It is further ORDERED that Respondents immediately CEASE AND DESIST from acting as securities dealers or agents in Texas until Respondents are registered with the Securities Commissioner or are acting pursuant to an exemption from registration under the Texas Securities Act.
3. It is further ORDERED that Respondents Durkee and Aransas immediately CEASE AND DESIST from engaging in any fraud in connection with the offer for sale of any security in Texas.

NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 23-2 of the Texas Securities Act, you may request a hearing before the 31st day after the date you were served with this Order. The request for a hearing must be in writing, directed to the Securities Commissioner, and state the grounds

for the request to set aside or modify the Order. Failure to request a hearing will result in the Order becoming final and non-appealable.

You are advised under Section 29.D of the Texas Securities Act that any knowing violation of an order issued by the Securities Commissioner under the authority of Section 23-2 of the Texas Securities Act is a criminal offense punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or imprisonment in the penitentiary for not more than two years, or by both fine and imprisonment.

SIGNED AND ENTERED by the Securities Commissioner this 31<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2005.

*Denise Voigt Crawford*  
DENISE VOIGT CRAWFORD  
Securities Commissioner