

Court Advisory

Fourth Court of Appeals
Cadena-Reeves Justice Center
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San Antonio, Texas 78205-3037



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Fourth Court of Appeals to Hear Oral Argument

The Fourth Court of Appeals will hear oral arguments in one appeal on Tuesday, March 16, 2020, beginning at 9:00 a.m., before the following panel of justices: Justice Patricia O. Alvarez, Justice Irene Rios, and Justice Beth Watkins.

The following appeal will be presented:

Rancho Viejo Cattle Company, Ltd. and Rancho Viejo Waste Management, LLC v. ANB Cattle Company, Ltd. – This appeal concerns a real property dispute regarding the parties’ respective rights to two surface estates. Appellants desire to construct floodwater-control and groundwater-monitoring improvements on the disputed tracts. Appellee desires to prevent the construction of these improvements. In the underlying suit, the parties sought declaratory relief regarding their respective rights. Following summary judgment proceedings, the trial court rendered a declaratory judgment that Appellee is a cotenant in the disputed tracts; Appellants have no legal authority to construct certain improvements on the disputed tracts without Appellee’s consent; Appellants’ exclusive use and possession of the surface estates of the disputed tracts is limited to hunting and grazing purposes; and Appellants, as fiduciaries, have no legal authority to impair, inhibit, or destroy Appellee’s ability to obtain its share of the contemplated benefits from the surface use of the disputed tracts in the development of the underlying mineral estates. Appellants challenge the trial court’s declarations on appeal.

In accordance with the Texas Supreme Court’s emergency orders in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the oral argument will be held through the Fourth Court of Appeals’ Zoom license.

The argument can be accessed using the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiaWJQ7eW5OQIALdyLN6s3A>