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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Deal Sikes & Associates Evaluates Texas Property in Eminent Domain Case  
Involving a Common-Carrier Pipeline Company**

**HOUSTON, TEXAS, Tuesday, July 30, 2013** — Deal Sikes & Associates, one of the nation’s leading eminent domain valuation firms, has represented a private property owner in an eminent domain proceeding undertaken by a common carrier pipeline company in Brazoria County, Texas. The pipeline is designed to carry crude oil to Freeport, Texas, south of Houston.

The pipeline company, using its power of eminent domain, acquired land west of Highway 288 in the Angleton community. The property owner retained the services of Deal Sikes & Associates to evaluate the property and determine the fair market value for the land, which is located near a bank, a hotel and other commercial development. The case was settled with the property owner receiving compensation that was more than tenfold the amount originally offered by the pipeline company.

“Common-carrier pipeline companies – similar to governmental entities - have the statutory right to take property through the power of eminent domain,” said Matthew Deal, principal, Deal Sikes & Associates. “In the state of Texas pipelines in general, whether they are transporting oil, gas, carbon dioxide or minerals, are considered common carriers if they transport products for more than a single user, acting much like a public utility.”

“The law stipulates property owners must receive just compensation when their property is taken through the power of eminent domain. The property owner should receive just compensation – the amount paid for the loss of property, plus damages to their remaining adjacent property,” Deal said.

Deal Sikes & Associates, a national leader in eminent domain counseling, has been involved in thousands of eminent domain situations and right-of-way acquisitions in Texas and other states.

Deal Sikes & Associates is a Houston-based firm that provides real estate valuation and counseling services for eminent domain initiatives, and real estate counseling and valuation services for governmental agencies, real estate companies, law firms, estates and corporate clients across the nation.

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