

T. Boone Pickens' Trial Lawyer Releases Dramatic Account of His Final Court Battle

The Last Trial of T. Boone Pickens recounts the story of Pickens' \$146 million verdict at age of 88

Chrysta Castañeda, the lead trial lawyer for T. Boone Pickens in his winning trial about an oil deal gone wrong, has written her first-person account of the final legal battle in his long and storied career.

[*The Last Trial of T. Boone Pickens*](#) (Texas A&M University Press, Feb. 2020) is a high-stakes courtroom drama told through the eyes of Castañeda. It's the story of an American business legend still fighting in the twilight of his life, and the woman determined to help him make one final stand for justice.

Pickens, who was 88 by the time of the 2016 trial in Pecos, Texas, had made and lost billions over his long career. He'd come to Pecos seeking his share of what had become the biggest oil play he'd ever invested in, an oil-rich section of far West Texas that was primed for an unprecedented boom at the time he invested. After years of dealing with the media, shareholders and politicians, Pickens would need to win over a dozen West Texas jurors in one last battle.

To lead his legal fight, he chose an unlikely advocate — Chrysta Castañeda, a Dallas solo practitioner who had only recently returned to the practice of law after a hiatus borne of disillusionment with big firms. They shared an unwavering determination to win and formed a friendship that spanned their differences in age, politics and gender.

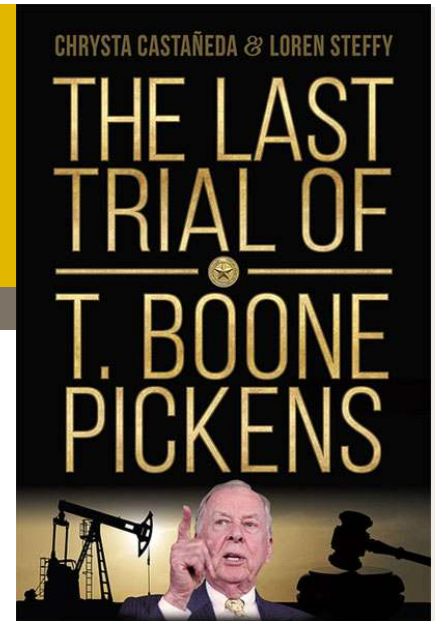
"I am proud to have represented T. Boone Pickens in his final legal battle, and I am proud to tell this account of the courtroom drama that unfolded in the heart of oil country," said Castañeda.

Castañeda co-authored the book with Loren Steffy, a leading journalist who covered Pickens over the decades for Texas Monthly and other publications.

For additional details, visit www.lasttrialoftboonepickens, Facebook or Twitter.

TALKING POINTS

- A real-life legal drama featuring an unlikely duo, high stakes and Texas oil
- An inside look at one of the U.S.'s top oilmen and what he did for the environment
- A "true grit" story of a younger hard-working female litigator helping an 88-year-old businessman fight the system
- Female empowerment in the age of #metoo and #TimesUp
- 2020 Election season – Chrysta is running for Texas Railroad Commissioner, the oil and gas regulatory for the State of Texas (primary on March 3)



BOOK DETAILS

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ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Chrysta Castañeda is a Dallas trial lawyer and head of The Castañeda Firm, a litigation boutique specializing in complex commercial oil and gas disputes. A former Big Law litigation partner, Chrysta formed her own firm in 2014 and has won accolades including the National Law Journal's Elite Trial Lawyers award and has been named to the Texas Lawyer's Verdicts Hall of Fame. Chrysta is a candidate in the 2020 Democratic Primary for Texas Railroad Commission, running on an environmental platform.

Loren Steffy is a journalist and author of three other books: *George P. Mitchell: Fracking, Sustainability and an Unorthodox Quest to Save the Planet* (Texas A&M University Press, 2019), *Drowning in Oil: BP and the Reckless Pursuit of Profit* (McGraw-Hill, 2010) and *The Man Who Thought Like a Ship* (Texas A&M University Press, 2012).

PRAISE

"Think you know T. Boone Pickens, the larger-than-life business titan, energy trader, and corporate raider? Think again. The attorney representing Pickens in his final major court battle and the business writer who covered him most over the decades reveal a whole other T. Boone that few people outside his bubble could have ever imagined." - **Joe Nick Patoski, author of *Austin to ATX***

"T. Boone Pickens, the legendary wildcatter and takeover tycoon, was a controversial figure — and a hard man to truly understand. As Pickens' attorney in the highest-stakes trial of his life, Castañeda got to know him better than most, and in this captivating, candid portrait, she and Steffy shed new light on the character and quirks that made him a villain to some and a hero to others." - **Jennifer Latson, author of *The Boy Who Loved Too Much***



Chrysta Castañeda



Loren Steffy

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