

Report: Leaving CBS anchor chair, Scott Pelley buys Texas ranch

By [Carol Christian](#), Chron.com / Houston Chronicle

Published 5:31 pm CST, Friday, December 9, 2016



Photo: Jeffrey R. Staab, CBS

Image 1 of 72

Scott Pelley, who earns \$5 million per year with CBS News, is rumored to be on his way out as "Evening News" anchor. He has also reportedly bought a Texas ranch, according to pagesix.com.

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Rumors are starting to circulate about Scott Pelley, a San Antonio native who is both "CBS Evening News" anchor and a member of the network's "60 Minutes" team.

Not just one rumor but two.

According to Page Six.com, Pelley is slated to be replaced as the "Evening News" anchor and has bought a ranch in Texas. Ah yes, the infamous, unspecified "somewhere in Texas." That's a lot of land.

One school of thought, according to pagesix.com, is that he wants to work from home on "60 Minutes" projects. Home on the ranch, that is.

Realtors, of course, don't go around blabbing about well-heeled clients who might be shopping for huge chunks of property.

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But we checked in with one of the Lone Star State's most veteran ranch brokers, Sam Middleton of Chas S. Middleton and Sons in Lubbock. He was one of the brokers who conferred with potential buyers of the iconic Waggoner ranch for about a year in the first stages of that purchase.

Early this year, Los Angeles Rams owner Stan Kroenke bought the Waggoner ranch that had an asking price of \$725 million.

Middleton, who has been in the business for 47 years and represents buyers and sellers in five states, said Friday he hadn't heard anything about Pelley buying a Texas ranch. But there could be "50 or 100" other brokers involved, he said.

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Asked for some general thoughts on the market, Middleton said it's pretty good right now.

"Our business has been very good," he said. "The demand for ranches is very strong right now, especially since the election."

Middleton said his clients are "surprised and happy" with the election outcome.

"It's given everybody a shot in the arm," he said.

Right now, Middleton's firm has 11 ranches for sale in Texas, a dozen in New Mexico and two in Colorado.

"The deals we've got will be from about \$3 million on the small side to a little over \$50 million," he said.

Yes, business is good.