

Entertainment and Art



Legal protection is crucial for the success and security of artists and entertainers. A song, a movie script, or a potential gaming app all require copyright protection before someone outside the creative process turns a million-dollar idea into a million-dollar creation. From the very beginning of the creation, Saxton & Stump attorneys work with entertainers such as musicians, writers, actors and comedians, and artists and creators such as painters, poets, photographers, writers and sculptors, to establish ownership of the work, obtain patents and copyrights and actively protect their work before someone else would have the chance to profit from it.

In addition to individual artists and entertainers, businesses such as music and movie studios, video production companies, entertainment employment agencies, amusement parks and vendors within the entertainment industry regularly seek the advice of our attorneys to help them protect their innovations.

Entertainment law encompasses a variety of legal areas, including intellectual property, contracts, licensing, and litigation. The primary goal of our Entertainment and Art Group is to provide comprehensive legal guidance to clients involved in the entertainment industry and the arts, ensuring they are

Team

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Related Services and Industries

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fully informed and protected throughout their careers.

Intellectual property. Our intellectual property attorneys understand the nuanced and varied needs of creative people as well as entertainment businesses. We advise our clients on securing their [intellectual property rights](#) and protecting them, and most importantly, how to monetize them.

Contracts and Licensing. Contracts are the backbone of any business and entertainment is no different. Whether a band is internally deciding how to split songwriting credits and publishing rights, or that same band is negotiating a deal with a record company, producer, or venue, our Entertainment and Art Group can provide the knowledge and experience needed to negotiate a beneficial contract. Licensing is involved in a wide range of activities, such as clearing samples for a song, using music in a video production, obtaining permission to show a news clip in a documentary, and more. Our team has extensive experience in handling licensing matters for musicians and other entertainers, and we are always ready to assist you with any licensing needs.

Business law. We advise our entertainment clients on all aspects of [business law](#). For example, we can advise on using business structures to formalize the distribution of money and rights between band members. Video production and distribution companies often need to create limited-purpose business entities for collaborations or to hold intellectual property rights. A record company may have several small wholly owned entities specializing in different musical genres. Our Entertainment and Art Group understands the possible approaches to a problem and will advise on the best solution for the situation at hand.

In addition to the legal representation we provide, we are also advisors and strategists and counsel our clients so they can make informed decisions that align with their long-term goals.

Labor and Employment. Our attorneys are well-versed in working with businesses of all sizes and in all stages of their lifespan, from start-ups to Fortune 500 companies. The attorneys of the group routinely work with entertainment industry businesses on compliance with federal and state [employment regulations](#), non-compete and confidentiality agreements, and protecting a business through litigation defense.