

Entertainment & Media

ENTERTAINMENT

The entertainment industry is filled with legal landmines, most commonly intellectual property (including trademarks and copyright), right of privacy, contract, insurance, finance and labor and employment matters. Our entertainment attorneys help the entertainment industry safely navigate issues, spotting them before they arise or resolving them if they have already come to the surface.

Our team represents artists, musicians, record labels, producers, directors, writers, photographers, publications, politicians, organizations, managers/supervisors, agencies, publicity firms, venues and radio stations.

MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY

As the public becomes increasingly reliant on the Internet as a primary news source, and social media for guidance on where to travel, stay, eat, and with whom to do business, we are seeing an influx of defamation and commercial disparagement lawsuits. Our media and technology attorneys offer experienced, efficient, and proactive counsel on a wide range of legal issues including media liability and the right to privacy. Our extensive practice includes counseling (and when needed litigation) on media-related issues including defamation (libel and slander), copyright and trademark infringement, prior restraints, news gathering methods, challenges to political and commercial speech, and restrictions imposed upon Internet content and e-commerce. In addition, we offer representation for invasion of privacy claims including right of publicity, false light, intrusion, and the improper disclosure of private facts. We devote an equal share of our time counseling clients on the risks associated with on-air broadcasts and news/entertainment publications and help clients minimize unnecessary litigation, address news gathering concerns, and ensure legal compliance prior to publication or broadcast.

We have experience structuring confidentiality agreements, validating campaign advertisements, and drafting formal agreements to ensure the privacy of trade secrets or the development of original works of art. We establish privacy policies within an organization to support and protect our client's investment and prevent confidentiality breaches.

Our areas of practice include:

- Defamation (Libel/Slander)

PROFESSIONALS

Ryan B. Jacobson
Partner

Max Goodman
Partner

Darren P. Grady
Partner

Danessa P. Watkins
Partner

- Right of Publicity
- Intrusion
- False Light
- Improper Disclosure of Private Facts
- Personal Rights of Privacy and Publicity
- Civil Conspiracy
- Censorship
- Liability Arising from Political Speech
- News Gathering Issues
- Pre-Broadcast/Publication Counsel

Experience

Obtained Zoning and Related Approvals for a Live Music Venue Developer to Construct a \$50 Million Complex

Serves as Outside Counsel to Media and Marketing Solutions Company

Regularly Defend Public Figures' First Amendment Right to Free Speech

Achieved Dismissal of Defamation Claims For Business Client

Firm News

94 Amundsen Davis Attorneys Recognized by Best Lawyers® in 2024 in America
Firm News, August 17, 2023

Subscribe to Amundsen Davis's Litigation Nation Podcast for the latest legal updates!
Firm News, February 10, 2023

Amundsen Davis Attorneys Included in the 2023 Illinois Super Lawyers and Rising Stars List
Firm News, *Amundsen Davis*, January 23, 2023

Amundsen Davis Promotes Two to Partner
February 22, 2021

Amundsen Davis Ranks on Crain's Chicago Business' 2018 Largest Law Firms List
Crain's Chicago Business, October 25, 2018

Ryan Jacobson Joins 13th Annual "Dancing With The Giordano Stars" Benefit
Chicago Patch, October 4, 2018

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6 Amundsen Davis Attorneys Included on 2018 Indiana Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists

Firm News, *Amundsen Davis*, February 20, 2018

Amundsen Davis Ranks on Crain's Chicago Business' Largest Law Firms List

Crain's Chicago Business, September 15, 2017

27 Amundsen Davis Attorneys Included on 2017 Illinois Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists

Firm News, *Amundsen Davis*, January 13, 2017

Amundsen Davis Ranks on Crain's Chicago Business' Chicago Largest Law Firms List

Firm News, *Crain's Chicago Business*, September 10, 2016

In the Media

Deployment Won't Pause Candidate's Defamation Suit -- *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin* Quotes Ryan Jacobson

Media Mention, *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*, November 6, 2020

"Federal Fraud & Breach of Contract Lawsuit," Ryan Jacobson Quoted in *Crain's Chicago Business* Article

Media Mention, *Chicago Business*, September 29, 2019

Ryan Jacobson Quoted in *The Chicago Tribune*

Media Mention, *The Chicago Tribune*, September 23, 2019

Chicago Daily Law Bulletin Quotes Ryan Jacobson in "Appeal Panel Denies Defamation Suit"

Media Mention, *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*, August 22, 2019

Ryan Jacobson Quoted in *The News-Gazette*

Media Mention, *The News-Gazette*, April 9, 2019

Ryan Jacobson Obtains \$7.6 Million Judgment for Client in Defamation Case

Media Mention, *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*, March 22, 2019

Ryan Jacobson Quoted in the *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*

Media Mention, *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*, January 29, 2019

In an era when everything is political, is any Metro ad noncontroversial? -- Ryan Jacobson Quoted in *The Washington Post*

Media Mention, *The Washington Post*, August 20, 2018

Chicago Sun Times Quotes Ryan Jacobson Regarding Pending Lawsuit Against a Chinatown Lounge

Media Mention, *Chicago Sun Times*, June 7, 2017

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Entertainment Lawyer Says “Yes, and” to Launching His Own Cinematic Career – Chicago Daily Law Bulletin Features Ryan Jacobson
Media Mention, *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*, September 19, 2016

Alerts

In Commercial Litigation, Home-Field Advantage Can Help You Win
Amundsen Davis Commercial Litigation Alert, February 27, 2017

Events

Lawsuit-Proofing Your Business
Speaking Engagement, The Hatchery Chicago; Webcast, July 28, 2022

How a Properly Worded Waiver & the Right Insurance Can Protect Your Business
Speaking Engagement, WaiverSign, Webcast, June 2, 2022

Your Business’s Response to Bad “Press” and Negative Social Media Posts
Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, February 23, 2022

Deconstructing Cancel Culture: A New Look at Crisis Management
Better Business Bureau, Webcast, May 11, 2021

Cancelling Cancel Culture: How to Safeguard Your Reputation from Bad Publicity
Speaking Engagement, Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webcast, April 6, 2021

Privacy Rights, Camera, Action! A Primer for Filmmakers
DePaul University; Chicago, IL, October 2019

Privacy Rights, Camera, Action! A Primer for Filmmakers
Chicago, IL; DePaul University, October 25, 2018

Photographing in the Public Sphere
Chicago, IL, September 13, 2018

National Autonomous University of Mexico Visits Our Chicago Office
Amundsen Davis, Chicago, IL, July 12, 2016

Published Works

A Guide to Being Media Savvy – Best Practices to Safeguard Your Public Image
Better Business Magazine, Summer 2020

Combating Negative Publicity: Pitfalls & Best Practices
The Illinois Manufacturer, July 2020

Float Like A Butterfly, Sting Like A \$30 Million Lawsuit: Muhammad Ali Enterprises Throws a Haymaker at Fox with a Right of Publicity Claim
American Bar Association Forum Newsletter on the Entertainment and Sports Industries, Fall 2018

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