

MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT

Our firm represents a broad spectrum of individuals and organizations in a variety of circumstances related to music, arts, fashion, entertainment and sports. We represent musicians, music publishers, record companies, songwriters, concert producers, television personalities, actors, dancers, ballet companies, authors, playwrights, painters, sculptors, video and board game developers, toymakers, fashion designers, Fortune 500 corporations, entrepreneurs, institutional clients, and sports organizations.

Our substantive knowledge of the different facets of the entertainment industry allow our lawyers to help shape careers and brands. Our attorneys have the experience and understanding to comprehensively counsel clients in complex legal issues with a sensitivity to the many relationships that are critical to your success. We prepare documents with an eye on clearly defining the rights of all parties in a complex entertainment-related transaction and avoid future litigation. Our attorneys negotiate and prepare an array of licensing, distribution, performance, licensing, management, agency, publishing, and recording agreements such as:

- Music licensing, including synchronization, mechanical, and performance licenses
- Consent and release agreements for actors or models
- Talent agreements, including agreements with well-known Hollywood actors, musical artists, reality show performers, and Olympic medalists
- Performance agreements for concert series or tours
- Musician/band agreements and establishing corporate structures and other organizational documents for the same
- Music publishers and recording agreements on behalf of the musicians and companies
- Agreements which transfer music composition and sound recordings rights and other intellectual property
- Revenue-sharing agreements among musicians for distribution of proceeds from performance, music licensing and sales
- Website music rights and streaming agreements
- Agreements with world-renowned photographers for their services
- Agreements for the manufacture and distribution of original board games
- Agreements regarding copyright, licensing, and theatrical services for production of an original stage musical
- Consumer terms of service for online music services

Vorys entertainment lawyers also advise clients across all industries in matters involving the U.S. performing rights societies ASCAP, BMI, SESAC and SoundExchange, as well as similar international societies. We assist both corporate and non-profit clients to obtain blanket and website licenses from them. We also develop response strategies for clients who receive inquiry letters from these societies. We perform comprehensive audits of music use among our large retail and institutional clients to make sure they are in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations concerning the public performance of others' music.