



Media, Sport, Gaming and Entertainment

DLA Piper's team has emerged as a top choice for those involved in the media, sport, gaming and entertainment industries—industries which demand the very best representation and expect superior client service.

Our lawyers understand the way the media, sport, gaming and entertainment industries work. We are trusted key advisors, with the experience and reach to advise in any major jurisdiction. Our clients benefit from our deep industry knowledge and experience, and from our creative, solution-oriented and responsive approach.

We have a market-leading international team of lawyers throughout Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, the Middle East and North America. We offer the benefits of a global business law firm, with a network of experience extending across the world.

DLA Piper is at the forefront of advising the sports, media and entertainment industries on finance, investment and corporate issues, production and rights acquisition, the exploitation of media rights, the staging and exploitation of live sports and other events, intellectual property protection and enforcement, regulatory and administrative issues, antitrust and competition law, theme park and stadium and arena development and management, and the resolution of disputes.

We advise film studios and producers, distributors, broadcasters, promoters, advertisers, rights holders, leagues, clubs, franchise owners, international and national governing bodies and agencies, event promoters, sponsors, investors, banks and other leading corporations and individuals. We also provide a coordinated hub for advising the leading gaming operators and suppliers in the gaming sector in respect to the myriad of local laws and regulation pertaining to the activities.

Our extensive experience covers:

- Advertising and marketing
- Audio-visual piracy
- Broadcasting/television
- Computer games
- Digital media
- Film
- Finance
- Gambling

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RELATED SERVICES

- Corporate
- Data Protection, Privacy and Security
- Patent Litigation
- Trademark and Copyright

RELATED SECTORS

- Hospitality and Leisure
- Media, Sport and Entertainment
- Technology

- Gaming
- International sports federations
- Live events
- Media
- Music
- Olympic and world-level events
- Publishing
- Sponsorship, licensing and merchandising
- Sports data
- Sports media rights
- Stadium development
- Theme park development and management

EXPERIENCE

- Advising the Premier League on all aspects of its broadcasting and media rights strategy and its landmark decoder card litigation. The Premier League's domestic and international media rights deals are the largest in world sport outside the United States and are innovatively structured to allow cross-platform, technology neutral exploitation by licensees while providing sophisticated protections against the threat of piracy.
- Representing Al Jazeera Media Network, a leading media company with more than 20 channels covering news, documentary and sports, in its acquisition of Current Media, LLC, operator of US-based cable network Current TV. Also counselling BeIN Sport, an affiliate of Al Jazeera Media Network, in connection with its US launch and providing intellectual property, corporate, tax, talent/employment advice as the network grows its US subscribership. DLA Piper continues to counsel Al Jazeera Media Network and BeIN Sports with its ongoing media, entertainment and business needs and acts as general outside counsel.
- Advise many of the world's leading gambling operators and suppliers regularly. We provide advice to the sector across a variety of practice groups, including commercial, IP, tax and, of course, gambling regulatory matters. With respect to regulatory understanding, DLA Piper is the only global law firm with genuine experience across all the major regulated markets.
- Advising a major Hollywood studio on a US \$400 million, multi-jurisdictional, structured financing for a slate of more than 10 films. We assisted with the development of the complex and cutting edge structure which involved regulatory, tax and numerous cross-border issues. The structure provided a return to investors based on the box office performance of the films in question.

INSIGHTS

Publications

New York's enhanced anti-SLAPP laws take effect, adding protections and remedies to deter speech-chilling litigation

19 November 2020

This development is expected to have an immediate impact on New York litigation, particularly in the defense of libel claims.

State of Play: What's next for the billion-dollar esports industry

21 October 2020

Tom Ara speaks with Mike Sepso, co-founder and CEO of Vindex, and Sarah Needleman, reporter for the *Wall Street Journal*, about the history and evolution of esports and ways the pandemic has affected the industry.

DLA Piper · State of Play: What's next for the billion-dollar esports industry

Sports betting and the protections of "enhanced" sports data in the US

30 September 2020

A supply of reliable, available data is the fuel needed for sportsbooks to create and compile odds, bet types, and risk management products.

Changes to California's AB 5 independent contractor law create new opportunities and risks

16 September 2020

These changes create additional opportunities for individuals, especially those involved in translation/interpretation and the music industry, to remain independent contractors.

Amid spike in positive cases, Puerto Rico tightens restrictions for businesses and tourism

21 July 2020

The restrictions impact certain businesses, particularly in the food and beverage, entertainment and tourism industries.

US v. Napout: Second Circuit affirms convictions in FIFA foreign corruption case

24 June 2020

A timely reminder that the risk of investigation and prosecution for foreign commercial bribery is very real and that the FCPA is not the only game in town.

Social media influencers beware: Street art is protected by copyright

11 June 2020

Michael Garfinkel discusses the legal implications of a new sub-economy.

A new reality: COVID-19's effect on the entertainment industry

8 June 2020

DLA Piper's Tom Ara, co-chair of the firm's Entertainment Finance and Transactions Practice, speaks with prominent Hollywood film and television producer David Broome.

President Trump's online platform Executive Order: Practical implications

3 June 2020

It is too early to tell if the EO initiatives will move forward or if instead their pendency operates as a sword of Damocles for large social media platforms.

Coronavirus: reopening businesses – compliance risks

24 April 2020

Companies looking to reopen are urged to do so in compliance with varying, changing government restrictions to avoid longer term liabilities that could potentially outweigh short term gains

Contract analysis in a crisis: flowcharts

7 April 2020

Flowcharts providing considerations for analyzing commercial contracts in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic through a logical process flow that can serve as a practical checklist.

Cost-cutting considerations in the time of COVID-19 (Part 3 – employment issues outside the US)

7 April 2020

A deeper dive into various cost-saving measures and their viability for employers outside the US.

COVID-19 and the "essential business" designation: Practical guidance for businesses that fall in the gray area between "essential" and "non-essential"

6 April 2020

Certain frequently asked questions as well as practical guidance.

Beyond social distancing: What employers need to know to keep their workplaces safe and manage privacy obligations in the face of COVID-19

2 April 2020

Guidance from OSHA, EEO and CDC to help employers seeking to protect the health, safety and privacy of their on-site employees.

Coronavirus: Cybersecurity considerations for your newly remote workforce (United States)

31 March 2020

Cyber risk management involves balancing the productivity of a workforce with ensuring confidentiality, integrity and availability of the company's own systems and data, as well as that of their supply chain.

Coronavirus: DHS Response to COVID-19 - What US Employers Need to Know

29 March 2020

Key questions and answers related to the new DHS guidance.

Coronavirus: Cyber hygiene practices

25 March 2020

While the world is responding to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), and individuals are increasingly focused on personal hygiene and social distancing, augmenting cyber hygiene efforts at home and at work are increasing in importance too.

Coronavirus: Employee furloughs, reductions-in-force and similar temporary cost-saving measures (Part 2 – Employment issues outside the US)

25 March 2020

A general overview of key employment issues to consider outside of the US in light of COVID-19.

Coronavirus: Employee furloughs, reductions-in-force and similar temporary cost-saving measures in the US - Part 1

25 March 2020

Key employment-related issues for US-based employers in relation to cost-saving measures due to COVID-19.

Panels examine trademark litigation and the CCPA at our 13th annual Women in IP Law CLE Luncheon

19 December 2019

Most of the more than 180 guests were leading IP counsel] for some of the Bay Area's largest tech companies.

With great influence comes great responsibility: potential liabilities in the growing influencer marketplace

30 Sep 2019

What responsibility, if any, falls on the influencer for social media product endorsements?

Sport Now: DLA Piper's Media, Sport and Entertainment sector, sports magazine

6 September 2019

Welcome to the September 2019 edition of Sport Now, DLA Piper's global magazine focusing on all sports related matters in the legal world. We hope you enjoy reading about the latest developments across the sector. Contact us or any of the authors, in case of any queries.

US Trade Representative publishes fourth list of Chinese products subject to Section 301 tariffs

19 August 2019

Yet more Chinese products will be subject to an additional 10 percent tariff.

Supreme Court Corner

24 July 2019

The Court clarifies a circuit split over copyright in *Fourth Estate* and, in *Mission Product Holdings*, says a licensee's rights survive the licensor's bankruptcy.

Who's that bot? California requires clear disclosure starting 7/1/2019

20 June 2019

A California law attempts to tackle the problem of automated online accounts that simulate conversation – and that are used to confuse or deceive.

***District of Columbia v. Facebook*: General Consumer Protection Statute can serve as vehicle for state attorney general seeking redress for data privacy violations**

12 June 2019

This case should be carefully examined by entities that collect data for a number of reasons.

Mexico: Anti-money laundering rules / self-correction program

8 MAY 2019

Mexico's new rules aim to encourage non-compliant taxpayers to meet their reporting obligations.

In-venue streaming and broadcasting of live sporting events – key legal issues for sports clubs and leagues

25 MAR 2019

Approaches to consider for US sporting event organizers seeking to combat peer-to-peer broadcasting of live events.

Top of Mind: Litigation

20 MAR 2019

In this issue, our coverage of 10 big topics businesses have been thinking about this quarter.

***Fourth Estate Public Benefit Corp. v. Wall-Street.com*: when can a copyright claimant sue for infringement? Supreme Court says not until the copyright has been registered**

5 MAR 2019

This decision will have an immediate impact on both pending and future copyright infringement lawsuits.

Fairness by Design

31 JAN 2019

The "net impression" created by the consumer's entire online interaction with a site will be reviewed by regulators and the courts when evaluating regulatory compliance.

DOJ reverses its 2011 Opinion, concludes Wire Act prohibitions “sweep beyond sports gambling”

18 JAN 2019

An opinion that will have a significant effect on the Internet gaming and lottery industries.

DLA Piper Slovakia: Online gambling liberalisation

14 JAN 2019

Slovakia is planning to liberalize the online gambling market. The planned effectiveness of the proposed act is 1 March 2019.

Sport Now: DLA Piper's Media, Sport and Entertainment sector magazine

10 JAN 2019

We've collated articles from a wide variety of countries to provide you with an overview of what's pertinent in the sector in your country and to show how this compares to sector in other parts of the world.

Supreme Court Corner Q4 2018

20 DEC 2018

A trademark case concerning the Lanham Act's prohibition of "immoral" marks; a patent case asking whether the government is a "person" under the AIA.

The Music Modernization Act: stronger protections for artists and publishers

21 DEC 2018

The MMA revamps the Copyright Act in three major aspects.

Stadium development can breathe life into urban areas

12 DEC 2018

Sports teams and their development partners are moving facilities closer to urban areas or to urbanized "edge cities," with athletic venues anchoring large, adjacent transit-oriented neighborhoods within communities as "arena districts."

Celebrity endorsements on social media: 7 tips for navigating the right of publicity

26 JUN 2014

How far can you leverage the names and images of celebrities when promoting your brand online?

Law à la Mode

1 MAY 2012

[LAW À LA MODE](#)

Law à la Mode

1 DEC 2011

[LAW À LA MODE](#)

UK: The real risk of cyber attack

1 AUG 2011

[Events](#)

[Previous](#)

[Webinar: Impact of COVID-19 on the sports sector - Update](#)

30 April 2020

Loyola Marymount University Film Finance Forecast

26 September 2019
Los Angeles

NEWS

Ann Ford named to the *National Law Journal's* 2020 list of DC Trailblazers

16 September 2020
DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Ann Ford has been named a 2020 DC Trailblazer by the *National Law Journal*.

DLA Piper wins landmark broadcasting dispute at the Federal Administrative Court for SAT.1

21 July 2020
DLA Piper has obtained two landmark decisions on central broadcasting law issues for ProSiebenSat.1 TV Deutschland GmbH and Sat.1 SatellitenFernsehen GmbH in a dispute with the state media authorities of Rhineland-Palatinate (LMK) and of Hesse (LPR) at the Federal Administrative Court (BVerwG).

DLA Piper's Andrew Kingman named to the *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly's* list of Up and Coming Lawyers

21 July 2020
DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Andrew Kingman has been named to the *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly's* list of Up and Coming Lawyers.

Information security and privacy lawyer Ronald Plesco joins DLA Piper's Intellectual Property and Technology practice as a partner in Philadelphia

1 July 2020
DLA Piper announced today that Ronald Plesco has joined the firm's Intellectual Property and Technology practice as a partner in Philadelphia.

DLA Piper lawyers and practices ranked in latest Chambers edition

8 May 2020
DLA Piper today announced that the firm received 172 lawyer rankings and 71 practice rankings in *Chambers USA's* 2020 guide.

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2020

30 April 2020

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 67 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2020 in the United States and May 1, 2020 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions have been made across many of the firm's practice areas in 35 different offices throughout 13 countries.

Across the firm's practices globally, Corporate saw the largest intake of new partners with 19 promotions, followed by Litigation and Regulatory with 15. Intellectual Property and Technology and Finance and Projects had ten and eight promotions respectively, while there were six in Real Estate. Tax and Employment both had four, and there was one in Restructuring.

Kristin Jacobson joins DLA Piper's Intellectual Property and Technology and Telecom practices in Northern California

1 April 2020

DLA Piper announced today that Kristin Jacobson has joined the firm's Intellectual Property and Technology and Telecom practices as a partner in Northern California, based in the Sacramento office.

Marius Domokos joins DLA Piper's Intellectual Property and Technology practice in Washington, DC

31 March 2020

DLA Piper announced today that Marius Domokos has joined the firm's Intellectual Property and Technology practice as a partner in Washington, DC.

DLA Piper lawyers named Acritas Stars

10 March 2020

Acritas has named over 200 DLA Piper lawyers as 2020 Acritas Stars. Now in its fourth year, Acritas Stars highlights the stand-out lawyers in private practice as nominated by clients around the world. More than 3,000 senior in-house counsel feed into the nomination process to give a comprehensive view of highly recommended lawyers across the globe.

DLA Piper's Holly R. Lake and Miles Cooley named Top Minority Attorneys by the Los Angeles Business Journal

28 January 2020

The Los Angeles Business Journal has named two DLA Piper partners with strong community ties to its 2020 Top Minority Attorneys list.

DLA Piper announces new US Intellectual Property and Technology practice leadership

22 January 2020

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Ann Ford will become the sole US chair and global co-chair of the firm's Intellectual Property and Technology practice. She will assume these roles from Frank Ryan, the incoming chair of DLA Piper LLP (US).

DLA Piper advises CallMiner in US\$75 million investment from Goldman Sachs

17 December 2019

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that the firm represented CallMiner in connection with a US\$75 million investment from GS

Growth.

DLA Piper named Communications Law Firm of the Year by *U.S. News and Best Lawyers*

6 November 2019

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that it has been named Communications Law Firm of the Year by *U.S. News and Best Lawyers* as part of the 2020 rankings.

Michael Sitzman joins DLA Piper's Intellectual Property and Technology practice in Northern California

4 November 2019

DLA Piper announced today that Michael Sitzman has joined the firm's Intellectual Property and Technology practice as a partner in Northern California, based in the San Francisco office.

Tamany Vinson Bentz named to the *Daily Journals* list of Top Trade Secrets Lawyers

9 October 2019

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Tamany Vinson Bentz, a Los Angeles-based partner in the IPT Litigation practice, has been named to the *Daily Journal's* 2019 list of Top Trade Secrets Lawyers.

Mark Radcliffe to moderate panel at Open Core Summit in San Francisco

18 September 2019

Mark Radcliffe will moderate a panel on "The OSS Business Model, from Past to Present" at Open Core Summit, the global commercial open-source software (COSS) category ecosystem conference.

DLA Piper advises Bowlero Corp. in its acquisition of the Professional Bowlers Association

11 September 2019

DLA Piper represented Bowlero Corporation in its acquisition of the Professional Bowlers Association, the pinnacle of professional bowling since 1958.

Experienced music lawyer Scott Bradford joins DLA Piper's Entertainment practice in Los Angeles

10 September 2019

DLA Piper announced today that veteran music lawyer Scott Bradford has joined the firm's Entertainment practice as of counsel in Los Angeles.

Lisa Hillman joins DLA Piper's Intellectual Property and Technology practice in Boston

26 August 2019

DLA Piper announced today that Lisa Hillman has joined the firm's Intellectual Property and Technology (IPT) practice as a partner in Boston.

Six-partner group joins DLA Piper across key markets and practice groups from coast to coast

18 July 2019

DLA Piper announced today the addition of a six-partner group whose members will be part of the firm's Corporate, Intellectual Property and Technology, and Litigation practices. The partners will be based in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Silicon Valley and New York.

DLA Piper to advise ITW Global Leaders' Forum on blockchain-based telecoms platform

2 July 2019

DLA Piper has been appointed to advise the ITW (International Telecoms Week) Global Leaders' Forum (GLF) on the launch of a special purpose vehicle that will develop a live, blockchain-based platform.

DLA Piper's Mark Radcliffe named to the *National Law Journal's* list of Technology Trailblazers

10 June 2019

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Mark Radcliffe, a Silicon Valley-based partner, has been named to the *National Law Journal's* list of Technology Trailblazers.

DLA Piper advises StoryBots in its acquisition by Netflix

23 MAY 2019

DLA Piper represented StoryBots, a children's educational media brand, in its acquisition by Netflix, Inc.

DLA Piper announces launch of Artificial Intelligence practice

14 MAY 2019

DLA Piper announced today the launch of its Artificial Intelligence practice, which will focus on assisting companies as they navigate the legal landscape of emerging and disruptive technologies, while helping them understand the legal and compliance risks arising from the creation and deployment of AI systems.

Andrew Serwin joins DLA Piper's Intellectual Property and Technology practice in San Diego

7 MAY 2019

DLA Piper announced today that Andrew Serwin has joined the Data Protection, Privacy and Security subgroup of the firm's Intellectual Property and Technology practice as a partner in San Diego.

DLA Piper lawyers and practices ranked in latest Chambers edition

30 APR 2019

DLA Piper today announced that 158 of the firm's lawyers and 64 of its practices were ranked in *Chambers USA's* 2019 guide.

DLA Piper lawyers and practices ranked in latest Chambers edition

30 APR 2019

DLA Piper today announced that 158 of the firm's lawyers and 64 of its practices were ranked in *Chambers USA's* 2019 guide.

Thomas Dombrowsky named to NTIA Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory Committee

26 APR 2019

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Thomas Dombrowsky has been named to the Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory Committee (CSMAC) of the US Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2019

1 APR 2019

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 77 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2019 in the United States and May 1, 2019 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions were made across many of the firm's practice areas in 43 different offices throughout 20 countries.

DLA Piper hosts leading business and diplomacy conference

14 MAR 2019

DLA Piper's London office has hosted the Annual Conference of the International Diplomatic and Business Exchange (IBDE).

Nancy Victory named to the *National Law Journal's* 2019 list of Intellectual Property Trailblazers

4 MAR 2019

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Nancy Victory, co-chair of the firm's global Telecom practice, has been selected as a 2019 Intellectual Property Trailblazer by the *National Law Journal*.

DLA Piper announces launch of Blockchain and Digital Assets practice

26 FEB 2019

DLA Piper announced today the launch of its Blockchain and Digital Assets practice, which will offer strategic advice on a global basis to address the needs of companies implementing blockchain technology solutions and creating and deploying digital assets.

DLA Piper recognized for fourth consecutive year as a top outsourcing advisor

26 FEB 2019

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that the firm has been selected for the 2019 Best of the World's Best Outsourcing Advisors list by the International Association of Outsourcing Professionals (IAOP).

DLA Piper joins Governing Council for Hedera Hashgraph

20 FEB 2019

DLA Piper has joined the initial group of Governing Council members for Hedera Hashgraph, a next-generation public ledger designed to have highly diversified governance and the most distributed consensus at scale. The announcement was made at Hedera Hashgraph's first annual summit in Seoul, Korea.

As part of the council, DLA Piper will help oversee changes to the software run by millions of Hedera distributed nodes over time. The governing council has been established to ensure stability and guaranteed continued decentralization to the Hedera Hashgraph distributed public ledger.

Edward J. McAndrew joins DLA Piper's Intellectual Property and Technology practice in Wilmington and Washington, DC

19 FEB 2019

DLA Piper announced today that Edward J. McAndrew has joined the firm's Intellectual Property and Technology practice as a partner based in Wilmington and Washington, DC.

DLA Piper bolsters Data Protection practice

4 FEB 2019

DLA Piper in Germany has hired Intellectual Property & Technology of counsel Prof Dr Jürgen Taeger, who joined the firm's Cologne office with effect from 1 February 2019.

Michael Jay joins DLA Piper's Intellectual Property and Technology practice in Los Angeles

3 JAN 2019

DLA Piper announced today that Michael Jay has joined the firm's Intellectual Property and Technology practice as a partner in Los Angeles.

DLA Piper lawyers ranked in *Chambers FinTech*

14 DEC 2018

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that the firm was ranked in the USA Legal 2019 edition of *Chambers FinTech*.

Five DLA Piper partners recognized in *Variety's* 2018 Dealmakers Impact Report

5 DEC 2018

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that five of its partners have been selected for *Variety's* 2018 Dealmakers Impact Report. The list honors the year's most accomplished dealmakers across all sectors of the entertainment industry who "keep the wheels of Hollywood turning, the content flowing and the money coming in."
