



Michael Senkowski

Partner

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For more than 30 years, Mike has represented both startup entrepreneurs and industry leaders in telephony, wireless, international, and Internet issues. He has handled hundreds of telecommunications transactions, ranging from small deals to five of the largest telecom mergers in history. He has engaged in virtually all aspects of telephony issues resulting from the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Mike is highly experienced in spectrum allocation and wireless policy issues for both service providers and manufacturers. He is experienced in the full range of advocacy venues important to telecom decision making. Businesses turn to him when they are facing investigations of compliance forfeiture proceedings.

Mike has been internationally recognized throughout his distinguished career. He is singled out as a "Leading Lawyer" by *Chambers USA*, which has noted that clients praise him as "an excellent strategist", "one of the lions of the practice," and as someone who "knows more about the FCC, both at a procedural and substantive level, than any lawyer in the USA." *The Legal 500 US* hails his influence in Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and public policy matters; clients told this directory that the "knowledgeable, well-connected" Mike is "an encyclopedia on telecom law" whose "savvy and awareness of legal and political issues make him a real asset to the practice," "unbeatable if you're looking for guidance on an FCC issue."

RELATED SERVICES

- Technology Transactions and Strategic Sourcing
- Telecom

RELATED SECTORS

- Media, Sport and Entertainment

EXPERIENCE

- OSTP-White House "Future of Drones" Workshop Facilitator
- NASA Spectrum for Unmanned Aircraft Traffic Management Presenter
- Appointed by the US State Department to serve as the US Representative on the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization Panel of Legal Experts
- Chief of Staff, Federal Communications Commission, Office of the Chairman
- Legal Advisor for Telephony, International and Adjudicatory Matters, Federal Communications Commission, Office of the Chairman
- Acting Deputy Chief of Litigation Division, Federal Communications Commission, Office of the General Counsel

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- District of Columbia

Recognitions

- Listed by *Chambers USA* as one of "America's Leading Lawyers for Business" in Telecom, Broadcast & Satellite (2007-2019)
- Named by *The Legal 500 US* as a "Hall of Fame" lawyer in Telecom Law in the area of Telecom and Broadcast Regulatory Law (2018-2019)
- Named one of the "Best Lawyers in America" for his work in Communications Law by BestLawyers.com (2018-2020)
- Named by *The Legal 500 US* as a "leading lawyer" in Telecom Law in the area of regulatory counselling and compliance advice (2007-2009) and in Telecom and Broadcast Regulatory Law (2010-2017) and a "recommended lawyer" in Telecom and Broadcast Regulatory Law (2015-2017) and Telecom and Broadcast Transactional Law (2015-2017) based on the recommendations of his clients and peers, included in *The Best Lawyers in America* directory for Communications Law (2006-2017)
- Named one of DC's "Top 100 Lawyers" (2012-2013) and "Super Lawyers" for Communications (2008-2018, Corporate Counsel Edition, August 2008) by *Super Lawyers* magazine
- Named one of "Washington's Best Lawyers" (2011, 2013) and one of "Washington's Top Lawyers" (2007, 2009) by *Washingtonian* magazine
- Included in Legal Media Group's *Expert Guides: Guide to the World's Leading Telecommunications Lawyers* (2011)
- Named a pre-eminent telecommunications practitioner by Legal Media Group's *Expert Guides: Guide to the World's Leading Technology, Media & Telecommunications Lawyers* (2010)
- Included in Legal Media Group's *Expert Guides: Guide to the World's Leading Lawyers—Best of the Best USA*(2009)
- Named by *Lawdragon* as one of "500 Leading Lawyers in America" (2007-2008, 2010-2011)
- Rated in the top tier of regulatory communications attorneys by *The International Who's Who of Business Lawyers*, which notes that his high degree of specialization and 'in depth knowledge of the industry' contributes to his reputation as 'one of the best around' "Both he and the firm were described by a competitor as "very good—a high-class outfit" (2005-2013)
- Recipient of the American Red Cross' prestigious Circle of Humanitarians Award in recognition of his and the firm's assistance in obtaining the phone number 1-800-RED-CROSS (2007)
- AV Peer Review Rating, Martindale-Hubbell's highest ranking by peers for general ethical standards and legal ability
- OSTP-White House "Future of Drones" Workshop Facilitator
- NASA Spectrum for Unmanned Aircraft Traffic Management Presenter
- FAA Drone Advisory Committee subject matter expert on state/local legal issues
- FAA UAS Identification and Tracking Advisory Committee member

Education

- J.D., George Washington University Law School
with honors
- B.A., Yale University

Courts

- United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit

Memberships

- American Bar Association
- Past Chairman, Federal Bar Association
- Federal Communications Bar Association

INSIGHTS

Publications

Using drones at US sporting events: what do I need to know?

10 MAY 2018

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has adopted a number of regulations governing the operation of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) in the national airspace of the United States. As UAS use becomes more prevalent, a review of the agency's specific policies regarding the use of these aircrafts around sporting events is necessary to ensure that operations maintain compliance with the applicable rules.

FAA restricts drone operations near seven DOE facilities

20 DEC 2017

UAS operators who violate the restrictions, effective December 29, 2017, may be subject to enforcement action, such as civil penalties and criminal charges.

FAA Aviation Rulemaking Committee: Final Report recommends standards for UAS remote ID and tracking

19 DEC 2017

A positive step that better frames the UAS remote ID and tracking debate.

FAA drone registration authority restored

12 DEC 2017

The FAA's explicit authority to require registration of civilian small unmanned aircrafts is being restored.

DOT and FAA's Unmanned Aircraft System Pilot Integration Program: seeking applications from State, Local and Tribal Nation Communities

8 NOV 2017

DOT and FAA are looking for State, Local and Tribal Nation Communities to apply to become one of five selectees generating data and community feedback on UAS operations.

- Co-author, "Understanding Arcane Policy Decisions About Spectrum," *Law360*, January 31, 2017

NEWS

DLA Piper advises T-Mobile and Deutsche Telekom in planned merger with Sprint

30 APR 2018

DLA Piper is acting as regulatory counsel representing T-Mobile US, Inc. and Deutsche Telekom, AG in the announced merger with Sprint Corporation.
