



Katherine Imp

Associate

katherine.imp@dlapiper.com

Los Angeles (Century City)

T: +1 310 595 3177

F: +1 310 595 3376

Katherine M. Imp is a transactional entertainment attorney representing production companies, studios, networks and independent financiers, producers, sales agents and distributors in the financing, development, acquisition, production, distribution and exploitation of motion picture, television, commercial and new media content.

Kate has extensive experience as production counsel for scripted and unscripted audiovisual content, having drafted and negotiated production and post-production agreements for over 150 different productions, including performer, director, writer, producer and other above- and below-the-line agreements, as well as agreements with domestic and foreign distributors and sales agents, ranging from small independent companies to major and mini-major studios.

Kate also has experience representing advertising agencies, brands, social media and app companies, and talent in the licensing, clearance, ownership and protection of intellectual property.

Kate's interest in entertainment law stems from her experience making a documentary feature (*Beauty Beneath the Dirt*) of her 2000-mile Appalachian Trail hike from Georgia to Maine in 2010 – a film for which she launched a 45-venue national film tour, obtained digital and foreign distribution, and through which she learned first-hand the challenges of financing, producing and distributing audiovisual content.

- Trademark and Copyright
- Intellectual Property and Technology
- Corporate

- Media, Sport and Entertainment

USC Gould School of Law

- *Guest Lecturer*, Entertainment Law in Practice, 2021
- *Guest Lecturer*, Entertainment Dealmaking, 2017

USC Marshall School of Business

- *Guest Lecturer*, BAEP 475: Entertainment Entrepreneurship, 2015-Present

- *Guest Lecturer*, BAEP 423: Management of Small Businesses, 2014-Present
- *Guest Lecturer*, BAEP 460: Seminar in Entrepreneurship, 2021
- *Guest Lecturer*, BAEP 450: Fundamentals of Entrepreneurship, 2020

UCLA School of Theater, Film & Television, Professional Programs

- *Guest Lecturer*, Contracts and Negotiations for Entertainment, 2020

UCLA Extension, Certificates in Entertainment

- *Guest Lecturer*, The Art and Business of Producing, 2020

Loyola Marymount University, Business Pathways

- *Guest Lecturer*, Entrepreneurship in Entertainment: Entertainment Law, 2019

Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana

- *Adjunct Faculty*, Business Law, 2014-17

Hussian College, Relativity School

- *Guest Lecturer*, Entertainment Law, 2017

University of Illinois College of Law

- *Teaching Assistant*, Legal Writing & Analysis, 2008

Outward Bound

- *Wilderness Instructor*, Intercept Expeditions for At-Risk Youth, 2007

Other Speaking Engagements

- Pepperdine University School of Law
- University of Illinois College of Law
- UNC Asheville
- Producers Guild of America
- The Blackhouse Foundation
- Roadmap Writers
- Socialexis

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- California
- Illinois

Clerk Experience

- Law Clerk, Hon. Arnold F. Blockman, Champaign County Circuit Court, Sixth Judicial Circuit, 2008

Recognitions

- Selected, *Variety*, "Dealmakers Impact Report," 2020
- Listed, *Super Lawyers* magazine, *Southern California Super Lawyers*, "Rising Star," 2015-2019
- Listed, *Super Lawyers* magazine, *Illinois Super Lawyers*, "Rising Star," 2014

Education

- J.D., University of Illinois College of Law 2009
cum laude
 - Associate Editor, Illinois Law Review
 - President, Women's Law Society
- B.A., University of Maryland, College Park 2006
summa cum laude

Memberships

- Member, Beverly Hills Bar Association
- Member, Women in Film Los Angeles
- Member, American Bar Association

INSIGHTS

Publications

Exploring the metaverse: What laws will apply?

22 June 2022

Intellectual Property and Technology News

For those intrigued by the metaverse, and for creators building metaverse projects, here are practical considerations.

Episode 2 - Is the Metaverse the virtual wild, wild west?

20 June 2022

The Media Sport and Entertainment Law Podcast

In this episode we explore the Metaverse – including discussion of what this new technology is; its applications and potential benefits; key hurdles to consumption; and the anticipated regulatory and IP uncertainties. The team highlight key considerations on how Web 3.0 is expected to change our day-to-day lives and what laws currently apply.

Exploring the metaverse: What laws will apply?

22 February 2022

Like any new foundational technology, the metaverse remains confusing and unknown to many. Writing for *Chambers TMT 2022*, we explore key questions.

PUBLICATIONS

- Author, "Top Billing for NFTs," *Los Angeles Lawyer*, May 2022

- Author, "Networking with Strangers: 6 Ways to Meet People in a New City," *Brazen*, March 5, 2015
- Author, "Balancing the Right of Publicity and the First Amendment: *The Impact of the Hurt Locker Case*," *American Bar*, pg. 49, March 5, 2015
- Author, "IMDb Fights Back on Age Censorship Law," *Screen Magazine*, January 11, 2017
- Author, "Jared Leto v. TMZ: The Copyright Battle Continues," *Screen Magazine*, July 28, 2016
- Author, "Cirque du Soleil's Steel Dream is a Legal Nightmare for Justin Timberlake," *Screen Magazine*, April 8, 2016
- Author, "From Kesha's Legal Battle to Lady Gaga's Oscar Performance: a Prediction about the Battle against Sexual Harassment," *Screen Magazine*, March 1, 2016
- Author, "Producer Threatens CHIRAQ: Copyright Violation or Publicity Stunt?," *Screen Magazine*, December 3, 2015
- Author, "The Netflix Tax that Broke the Camel's Back," *Screen Magazine*, September 17, 2015
- Author, "Nobody Puts Your Old 401(k) in the Corner: Parody or Trademark Infringement?," *Screen Magazine*, July 6, 2015
- Author, "Street Legal," *Screen Magazine*, May 13, 2015
- Author, "What Every Independent Film Producer Should Know About SAG-AFTRA," *Screen Magazine*, April 15, 2015
- Author, "Did EMPIRE steal P. Diddy's life story? P. Diddy Seems to Think So," *Screen Magazine*, March 5, 2015
- Author, "The Right of Publicity: Why Marilyn Monroe Still Makes More Money Than You ," *Screen Magazine*, February 18, 2015
- Author, "Why Cutting 'Entertainment Attorney' from the Budget is a Bad Idea," *Screen Magazine*, January 19, 2015
- Author, "THE INTERVIEW Canceled: FBI Eyes North Korea," *Screen Magazine*, December 19, 2014
- Author, "Keep it Simple: What You Need to Establish Chain of Title," *Screen Magazine*, November 19, 2014
- Author, "BATMAN VS... EXTRA? Why You Need to Take the NDA Seriously," *Screen Magazine*, October 29, 2014
- Author, "Why the Poor Man's Copyright Will Keep You Poor," *Screen Magazine*, September 24, 2014
- Author, "Employee v. Independent Contractor: Why It Matters," *Screen Magazine*, August 20, 2014
- Author, "I Want to Tell your Story, Now Gimme the Rights!," *Screen Magazine*, August 6, 2014
- Author, "The Sole Proprietor Complex: DBA v. Exorbitant Filing Fees ," *Screen Magazine*, June 27, 2014
- Author, "Internet Defamation: Goodbye Right of Privacy, Hello Free Speech," *Screen Magazine*, April 28, 2014
- Author, "Inside Hollywood: Financing for the Indie Filmmaker," *Screen Magazine*, April 14, 2014
- Author, "I'll Take One Tax Credit, Please," *Screen Magazine*, March 24, 2014
- Author, "Overcoming False Peaks: Professional Development Tips for the Young Lawyer" October 1, 2013
- Author, "How to Accomplish Your Big Goals (Even if They're As Crazy As Making a Movie)," *Brazen*, August 22, 2012
- Author, "Home is Where the Most Economically Beneficial Laws Are: Finding the Best Location to Incorporate Your Business," *Illinois Business Law Journal*, April 24, 2008
- Author, "Lawyer-Turned-Entrepreneur: How the Collision of Diverse Careers Can Blend into Success, Illinois Business Law Journal," *Illinois Business Law Journal*, April 7, 2008
- Author, "The Young and the Restless: the Inevitable Trend of New Graduates towards Solo Practice, Illinois Business Law Journal," *Illinois Business Law Journal*, February 2, 2008

Events

Previous

Employment law trends in the Media, Sport and Entertainment sector

May 26, 2022 | 12:00 - 1:00 pm EST
Webinar

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Panelist, "Managing Risk Through Insurance: The Nitty Gritty of Protecting Your Production," Producers Guild of America, August, 3, 2017
- Panelist, "Entertainment Law: Nuts & Bolts", Pepperdine University School of Law, March, 30, 2016
- Interviewee, "WBAI 100th Anniversary Video," Women's Bar Association of Illinois, June, 25, 2014

NEWS

MEDIA MENTIONS

- "Top Billing for NFTs," *Los Angeles Lawyer*, May 2022
- "Kate Imp '09 featured in Variety's 2019 Legal Impact Report," *Illinois Law Alumni Reporter*, April 17, 2019
- "Katherine Imp and Beauty Beneath The Dirt," *Illinois State Bar Association*, June 2013
- "What it Takes to Succeed at Your Passion Project," *Alexis Grant*, July 2012
- "Lawyer Documents Epic Journey," *Amicus Curious*, October 2011

Four DLA Piper lawyers named to *Variety's* 2022 Legal Impact Report

21 April 2022

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that four of its lawyers have been named to *Variety's* 2022 Legal Impact Report highlighting the top attorneys in the entertainment business.

Four DLA Piper lawyers named to *Variety's* 2021 Dealmakers Impact Report

9 December 2021

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Tom Ara, Katherine Imp, Alexander Steinberg and Robert J. Sherman have named to *Variety's* 2021 Dealmakers Impact Report in recognition of their contributions to entertainment deal making in 2021.

DLA Piper represents TikTok in launch of its first ever NFT collection

1 October 2021

DLA Piper is pleased to announce its representation of TikTok in the launch of the video platform's first ever non-fungible token (NFT) collection.

Seven DLA Piper lawyers named to *Variety's* 2021 Legal Impact Report

9 April 2021

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that seven of its lawyers have named to *Variety's* 2021 Legal Impact Report highlighting the top attorneys in the entertainment business.

Eight DLA Piper attorneys named to *Variety's* 2020 Dealmakers Impact Report

10 December 2020

The recently released *Variety* Dealmakers Impact Report recognizes eight DLA Piper attorneys for their successful contributions to

entertainment deal making in 2020: Tom Ara, Afshin Beyzaee, Scott Bradford, Katherine Imp, David Markman, Ben Mulcahy, Robert Sherman and Alex Steinberg.
