



Robert J. Sherman

Partner

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Robert J. Sherman focuses his practice on domestic and cross-border financings, acquisitions and strategic transactions for clients in the entertainment and media industries. He represents banks, private equity funds, sponsors, independent production companies, commercial banks and private debt funds, motion picture studios, TV and film production and distribution companies, record companies, music publishers, concert and other live event promoters and other participants in complex motion picture, TV, digital content and music industry transactions.

Robert represents clients in matters involving the purchaser of media and entertainment assets from debtors in bankruptcy proceedings, assignments for the benefit of creditors and other insolvency and remedial proceedings.

- Corporate
- Media, Sport and Entertainment
- Financial Services

REPRESENTATIVE CLIENT REPRESENTATIONS:

- Concord, a leading independent music company, in connection with the acquisition by a Concord affiliate of Downtown's iconic portfolio of 145,000 owned and co-published music copyrights
- Concord in providing the company with access to over US\$1 billion of term and revolving debt financing in one of the largest music industry financings in recent times
- Raven Capital Management and Sculptor Media in the financing and production of The Minuteman, a feature film starring Liam Neeson and Cop Shop, a feature film starring Gerard Butler
- Raven Capital Management in its US\$87.5 million acquisition of certain assets of Academy Award®-winning Hollywood studio Open Road Films and its follow-on re-launch of Open Road Films as a domestic theatrical distributor
- A debt fund in various transactions including a US\$50 million senior secured term loan to an independent cable network
- A major independent film and television producer in the financing of the first season of a television series made for a major subscription video on demand service

- A Canadian independent television and film production and distribution company in a revolving senior secured credit facility
- A Latin American film production company in negotiating a revolving secured credit facility for the financing of multiple feature films
- A major independent record company in renegotiation and structuring of revolving, senior-secured working capital credit facility
- Banks and private equity funds in making single-picture senior secured production loans
- Banks as participants in film, television and music publishing secured credit facilities
- A major motion picture studio in structuring a series of cross-border and domestic co-financing arrangements with private investment funds with an aggregate deal value in excess of US\$1 billion
- A Mexican music company in the implementation and structuring of mixed stock and asset sale of a group of music publishing and recorded music companies
- A private equity-backed acquirer of music publishing assets
- A Caribbean-based conglomerate in connection with the financing, development, production and distribution of motion pictures, as well as the structuring of strategic joint ventures
- A private equity fund in exercise of secured creditor remedies workout of structured senior secured "film slate" credit facility
- A bank in a leveraged recapitalization of a music publishing company

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- California
- New York

Recognitions

- *Variety*, "Dealmakers Impact Report," 2021, 2020, 2018
- *Variety*, "Legal Impact Report" 2021
- Distressed M&A Deal of the Year award from *The M&A Advisor* in recognition of the representation of Raven Capital Management in its US\$87.5 million acquisition of certain assets of Academy Award®-winning Hollywood studio Open Road Films
- Global M&A Network Middle Market Restructuring Deal of the Year Award in recognition of the representation of Raven Capital Management in the Open Road Films acquisition
- *Super Lawyers Southern California Rising Star*, 2007

Education

- J.D., Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law 1996
magna cum laude
Notes Editor, *Cardozo Law Review*, 1995–1996
- B.A., State University of New York at Buffalo 1984

Memberships

- Financial Lawyers Conference
- Los Angeles County Bar Association
- State Bar of California, Business Law Section, Uniform Commercial Code Committee

NEWS

DLA Piper advises Dundee Partners in its US\$1.1 billion acquisition, with KKR, of Kobalt Capital's Fund II music

rights portfolio

19 October 2021

DLA Piper represented Dundee Partners, the investment office of the Hendel family, in its acquisition, together in a joint venture with global investment firm KKR, of the KMR Music Royalties II portfolio from Kobalt Capital Limited for approximately US\$1.1 billion.

DLA Piper advises HarbourView Equity Partners in its launch and strategic relationship with Apollo Global Management

8 October 2021

DLA Piper represented HarbourView Equity Partners, a global alternative asset manager focused on investment opportunities in the media and entertainment space, in its recent launch and the establishment of a strategic relationship with Apollo Global Management, Inc. (NYSE: APO) (together with its consolidated subsidiaries, "Apollo"), a global alternative investment management firm. Apollo clients and funds will serve as lead investors in HarbourView.

DLA Piper advises Concord in acquisition of Downtown's copyright portfolio

27 April 2021

DLA Piper represented Concord, a leading independent music company, in connection with the acquisition by a Concord affiliate of Downtown's iconic portfolio of 145,000 owned and co-published music copyrights.

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.

DLA Piper receives Distressed M&A Deal of the Year Award from *The M&A Advisor* for Open Road Films transaction

10 November 2020

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that the firm received a Distressed M&A Deal of the Year award from *The M&A Advisor* in recognition of its representation of Raven Capital Management in its US\$87.5 million acquisition of certain assets of Academy Award®-winning Hollywood studio Open Road Films.

DLA Piper advises Concord in closing of US\$1 billion in debt financing

18 August 2020

DLA Piper represented Concord in a US\$600 million term loan B debt offering and US\$450 million revolving credit facility, providing the company with access to over US\$1 billion of total debt financing in one of the largest music industry financings in recent times.

DLA Piper to receive Deal of the Year award from *The M&A Advisor* for its representation of Raven Capital Management in the acquisition of Open Road Films

2 January 2020

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that the firm will receive a Distressed M&A Deal of the Year award from *The M&A Advisor* for its representation of Raven Capital Management in the acquisition of Open Road Films' library of feature films.

MEDIA MENTIONS

- "Pro tips for buyers and sellers," *Billboard Magazine*, November 30, 2020
- "Dealmakers Directory," *Billboard Magazine*, November 30, 2020
- "Liam Neeson to Star in Action-Thriller 'The Minuteman,'" *Variety*, May 9, 2019
- "Independent Films: How China And Video-on-Demand Are Disrupting The Market," *Forbes*, November 10, 2016
- "Raising the Money To Make Your Film in Today's Market – Tales from the AFM," *Huffpost*, November 7, 2016
- "AFM: Lakeshore Entertainment, Cutting Edge Group Make Music Deal," *Variety*, November 7, 2016