



Peter C. White

Partner

GLOBAL CO-CHAIR, MEDIA, SPORT AND ENTERTAINMENT SECTOR

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Peter White has over 25 years of experience in the professional sports business, representing various parties in commercial, development, financing, corporate and M&A transactions, as well as contentious matters, involving the world's major sports leagues, including Major League Baseball, the National Basketball Association, the National Football League, the National Hockey League, Major League Soccer, England's Premier League, Spain's La Liga, Italy's Lega Serie A and the Australian Football League.

Over the years, Peter has gained significant experience representing teams, owners, banks, investors and other parties in the development and financing of sports properties, including leagues, clubs, media interests, stadiums, arenas, concessions and related assets.

As Global Co-Chair of the firm's Media, Sport and Entertainment Sector, Peter helps coordinate the firm's financing, M&A, sponsorship, development, major events and disputes practices in this sector around the world and manages significant client relationships.

- Finance
- Corporate
- Mergers and Acquisitions

- Media, Sport and Entertainment

In particular, Peter has been active in the acquisition, development and financing of the development or redevelopment of stadiums and arenas for prominent teams such as MLB's Braves, Dodgers, Nationals, Cubs, Mets, Twins and Yankees, the NBA's Bucks, Kings, Heat, Magic and Nets, the NFL's Chargers, Vikings, 49ers, Bills, Giants, Jets, Packers, Raiders and Patriots, the NHL's Sabres, Premier League's Tottenham Hotspur, the Australian Football League and Serie A's AS Roma.

Among the transactions he has led are the financing of a controlling interest in the Chicago Cubs, Wrigley Field and related assets for the Ricketts family; the US Bank Stadium for the Minnesota Vikings, Levis Stadium for the San Francisco 49ers; MetLife Stadium for the New York Giants and New York Jets (*Project Finance* magazine's North American 2007 Leisure Deal of the Year); the new arena for the Milwaukee Bucks, Golden1 Center for the Sacramento Kings, Barclays Center for the Brooklyn Nets, Amway Center for the Orlando Magic; Citi Field for the New York Mets and the new Yankee Stadium for the New York Yankees (*Bond Buyer's* 2006 Deal of the Year); SoFi Stadium for the LA Chargers and Target Field for the Minnesota Twins.

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- New York

Recognitions

Peter has been repeatedly recognized in *Chambers USA*, in which clients have reported that he is "preeminent on financing deals" and "has a fulsome knowledge of the sports space and tremendous relationships in the industry which help in getting transactions done." The directory has noted that Peter "is well regarded by peers and clients" who have lauded his "unparalleled domestic and international experience," and "has a tremendous track record in the financing and development of stadia for both domestic and international sports leagues." One industry source described him as "the guru for stadium and arena financing."

Peter has also drawn recognition from *The Legal 500 United States*, which called him a "renowned 'industry leader,'" "innovative," "never daunted by impossible odds" and "particularly good at structuring complex financings with multiple liens and tiers." He is also recognized as a New York Super Lawyer, 2015 New York Metro Super Lawyer and has been named Dealmaker of the Year by *American Lawyer*.

Education

- J.D., St. John's University School of Law 1984
- B.A., Adelphi University 1980

INSIGHTS

Publications

Esports Laws of the World

26 July 2021

The esports market has been booming over the last few years, but in some cases, regulations have not been able to catch up. In this guide, we look at the local legal and regulatory requirements for the esports industry across 38 countries, to help you identify potential issues and solutions.

COVID-19: DLA Piper's global industry guide to resuming production post-pandemic

5 October 2020

Now that many countries are slowly beginning to experience COVID-19 lockdown restrictions easing and a push to restart industries, we have compiled this comprehensive report on the key considerations for resuming film and TV productions across 15 jurisdictions.

COVID-19 Media productions and filming

28 May 2020

As the world looks tentatively towards opening economies and takes its first steps toward the "new normal", we are pleased to introduce this guide to provide the latest updates on the legal aspects of lockdown, and on restarting production work.

Impact of COVID-19 on the sports sector

15 April 2020

Sporting events around the world are being postponed or cancelled by governing bodies in a bid to prevent the spread of coronavirus. A range of sports have taken action, with the Football Association suspending the 2019-2020 professional football season, UEFA delaying Euro 2020 until the summer of 2021 and Formula 1 postponing a number of races with a view to announcing new race dates later on in the 2020 season.

- Media, Sport and Entertainment Intelligence - May 2016, 10 May 2016

Events

- Panelist, "Media Rights and Digital Challengers – A New Ball Game," 2019 *Financial Times* Business of Football Summit: The Search for Growth and Value in the World's Most Popular Sport, London, England (May 21, 2019)
- Co-Presenter, "Stadium Financing," DLA Piper's Media, Sport and Entertainment Seminar, Stockholm Sweden (November 12, 2018)
- Moderator, "The Convergence of Sports and Technology," 2018 DLA Piper Technology Summit, Menlo Park, California (October 9, 2018)
- Co-Moderator, "The Future of the Beautiful Game: Rights, Reform and Expansion," 2017 CAA World Congress of Sports, Dana Point, California (April 20, 2017)
- Advisor Committee Member, The Vatican's Sport at the Service of Humanity Conference, The Vatican (October 5-7, 2016)
- Co-Moderator, "Investing in Sports on a Global Scale: Where is the Unrealized Value?" 2016 CAA World Congress of Sports, Los Angeles, California (April 14, 2016)
- Co-Moderator, "Building Brands Beyond Borders: Turning Sports Properties and Events into Global Entities," 2015 IMG World Congress of Sports, Los Angeles, California (April 9, 2015)
- Presenter, "Lessons from North America: Stadium & Arena Finance & Revenues," The Stadium Business' 3rd Annual Design and Development Summit 2014, Madrid, Spain (October 30, 2014)
- Panelist, "Stadium Financing & Development," Brewer Sports Symposium V, Miami, Florida (April 24, 2014)
- Co-Moderator, "Brazil in the Spotlight: World Cup 2014, Olympics 2016 and What it Means to Sports Business in Brazil and Companies Around the World," 2014 IMG World Congress of Sports, Dana Point, California (March 19, 2014)
- Moderator, "The Emergence of India Professional Sports," US-India Business Council's Sports & Entertainment Conference, New York, New York (October 17, 2013)
- Panelist, "The Law on Stadia In Extra Time," Expo Italia Real Estate, Milan, Italy (June 6, 2013)
- Panelist, "Career in Sports," The Inaugural Cardozo Sports Law Symposium, New York, New York (April 23, 2013)
- Speaker, "Finding Investors for Project Engagement," Russia Stadium Build & Technology Summit, Moscow, Russia (April 12, 2013)
- Co-Moderator, "The Globalization of the Beautiful Game: Building Brands Beyond Borders," 2013 IMG World Congress of Sports, Naples, Florida (April 4, 2013)
- Co-Moderator, "Keep Them Coming Back: The Next Generation Venue Experience," 2012 IMG World Congress of Sports, Dana Point, California (March 21, 2012)

NEWS

DLA Piper advises AS Roma in its sale to The Friedkin Group for €591 million

17 August 2020

DLA Piper represented AS Roma SPV, LLC, the majority shareholder of Italian soccer club AS Roma, in the sale of its controlling interest in the team and certain related assets to The Friedkin Group, Inc., in a transaction valued at €591 million.

MEDIA MENTIONS

- "Can spring football ever work?" *Sports Business Journal*, August 12, 2018
- "Keys to sports law success: Hard work, relationships," *Sports Business Journal*, August 13, 2018
- "Power Players - Outside Counsel," *Sports Business Journal*, June 27, 2016