



USA Guide

Overview

Since 1999, we have been researching the US legal profession, identifying the leading lawyers and law firms through interviews with thousands of lawyers and their clients. Our reputation is based on the independence and objectivity of our research.

In addition to the 'state' listings, certain practice areas, such as antitrust and capital markets, have 'nationwide' listings which include those firms and lawyers with national practices.

Rankings Explained

The Research

Our methodology for the research into the strengths and reputations of law firms and individuals has been approved by the British Market Research Bureau.

We speak to a vast range of lawyers and their clients (ie commercial users of legal services). Greater weighting is given to the views of the clients, and any biased viewpoints tend to cancel each other out. All interviews are conducted purely for research purposes and are entirely confidential and un-attributed.

We select our sources on the basis of:

- submissions put forward by legal practices
- interviews during the course of research
- our own database resources.

In-depth interviews with clients and with lawyers are done over the telephone, each one lasting about half an hour.

Thousands of interviews are conducted by a team of 50+ full-time researchers. Unlike our competitors, *Chambers* researches, compiles and launches completely new editions of our directories each year.

The Rankings

Law firms and individual lawyers are ranked in bands from 1-6, with 1 being the best.

In addition, there are further categories in which lawyers can be ranked as exceptional

individuals. A 'Senior Statesman' is a lawyer who no longer works hands-on with the same intensity but who, by virtue of close links with major clients, remains pivotal to the firm's success. A 'Star' ranking is given to lawyers with exceptional recommendations in their field.

Two additional bands list those who are at the forefront of their generation but who do not yet warrant inclusion in the tables. The 'Up and Coming' band lists those who do not yet have an established reputation but who are driving their firm's growth. 'Associates to Watch' are senior associates who are recognised for their work in the background of major deals.

In the UK, Barristers are divided into 'Leading Silks' and 'Leading Juniors'. Leading juniors who have since taken silk appear banded under 'New Silks'.

The qualities on which rankings are assessed include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

Firms and individuals are ranked in bands (where they are listed alphabetically).

Chambers Commentary

Editorial comment is based on our research, with quotations used when they sum up the prevailing opinion in the market.

The rankings and editorial comment about lawyers are independent and objective. Inclusion in this section of the guide is based solely on the research team's findings. No-one can buy their way in.

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Ranked in:

Media & Entertainment: Film & Television

New York (Band 3)

Practice Areas: Entertainment, media and communications / litigation / banking and finance / intellectual property / corporate / labor and employment.

Personal: Mr. Janowitz is Chair of the Entertainment Group and a Senior Partner in the Litigation Group. His practice in the Entertainment Group focuses primarily on film financing and production. Together with an interdisciplinary team assembled from the firm's entertainment, finance and corporate groups, he has led numerous complex multi-picture financings as well as the financing of individual pictures and other assets. He devotes significant attention to representing senior executives of major studios and major film companies in connection with their employment agreements, the structuring of benefits and disputes which may occur. Pryor Cashman's film practice, headed by Mr. Janowitz, covers a wide variety of film production and finance. Within the past year, Mr. Janowitz has represented both producers and lenders with respect to film financings which typically include both senior and subordinated debt as well as monetization of tax benefits. Other representative matters include: Structured finance transactions including complex capital structures involving equity, sub-debt and senior debt. Represented lenders in connection with bridge loans and collateralization of multi-picture transactions. Represented lenders in connection with library acquisitions and collateralization of library assets. Various joint ventures between distributors and investors for both live action and animated films. Mergers and acquisitions of film companies. Negotiation of studio out-put deals. Negotiation of employment agreements for high level studio executives and executives at major independent film companies. Arranging for funding of approximately \$100 million for a joint venture between a hedge fund and a specialty lender. Mr. Janowitz' litigation practice focuses on complex commercial litigation. His practice is broadly based and he has experience in a wide variety of class action and RICO litigation, as well as entertainment litigation. He is currently representing institutional investors in a securities fraud action against Paramount Pictures. He has recently successfully represented Fox Broadcasting, Dick Clark Productions and 19 Entertainment in a litigation asserting a claim against the defendants in connection with the hit television show So You Think You Can Dance. He is also currently representing the owner of an

important work by Egon Schiele in a litigation concerning its provenance. Other representative matters include: Representation of defendants in class action litigations. Representation of television producers and broadcasters in connection with claims asserting misappropriation of creative ideas and formats Litigation representing joint venture partner in a real estate development transaction Representation of major director with regard to contractual disputes Litigation involving the provenance of major works of art. Representation of numerous high profile film executives in contractual disputes with employers Product liability class actions. Trademark and copyright litigation. Mr. Janowitz is a 1971 graduate of New York University School of Law, where he was an Editor for the Journal of International Law and Politics. Mr. Janowitz is AV Peer Review Rated, Martindale Hubbell's highest peer recognition for ethical standards and legal ability.



Howard Siegel

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Ranked in:

Media & Entertainment: Music

New York (Band 2)

Practice Areas: Entertainment, media and communications / intellectual property.

Personal: Howard Siegel is a senior partner in Pryor Cashman's Entertainment Group. He has more than 35 years experience in representing clients in all aspects of the entertainment business, with a particular emphasis on the music industry, during which time he has served as counsel to many of the industry's most prominent recording artists, songwriters, producers, managers, and executives. Mr. Siegel has also been involved in a number of music publishing company sales and acquisitions, as well as having advised on a variety of transactions involving the sale and purchase of master recordings and other entertainment-related assets. Mr. Siegel is the former Chair of the Section on Entertainment, Arts and Sports Law of the New York State Bar Association, former Chair of the New York State Bar Association Committee on the Music and Recording Industry, and an Associate Member of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. Mr. Siegel is a frequent lecturer for the Practising Law Institute and currently serves as Co-Chair of PLI's Counseling Clients in the Entertainment Industry. He is also a speaker for the New York Law Journal Seminar Press and the Continuing Legal Education Seminars of the New York State Bar Association. Mr. Siegel served as judicial clerk at the New York State Court of Appeals from 1970 to 1972. He is an adjunct Professor of Law at Fordham Law School and a member of the Editorial Board of Entertainment Law and Finance and of Multimedia Web

Strategist, as well as the Editor-in-Chief of the nationally distributed book Entertainment Law and author of several articles dealing with the entertainment, music and copyright practice. In 2007, and again in 2008, Mr. Siegel was designated by The Hollywood Reporter as one of the top 100 'Power Lawyers' in the entertainment industry. He was also recognized as one of the 'Super Lawyers' in 2008 - a ranking of the top 5% of all attorneys in the New York Metropolitan area. Mr. Siegel is a Member of the New York, Nevada and California Bars and a summa cum laude graduate of Syracuse University College of Law where he was Order of the Coif, Editor-in-Chief of the Syracuse Law Review (1970) and a member of the Moot Court Board (1969-70).