

Practice Areas

- Entertainment, Media and Communications
- Litigation
- Banking and Finance
- Intellectual Property
- Corporate
- Labor and Employment
- Digital Media
- Investment Management Group

Education

- J.D., New York University School of Law, 1971
- B.A., Haverford College, 1967

Bar Admissions

- New York (1972)
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit (1974)
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York (1973)

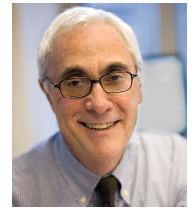
James A. Janowitz

Partner

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James Janowitz is Chair of the Entertainment Group and a senior partner in the Litigation Group. He has been selected for the last several years by Chambers USA as a leading lawyer in media and entertainment. In 2011 he was selected as one of the top 100 lawyers in the New York Metropolitan area by peer review in Super Lawyers. In 2011 he was also named by the Hollywood Reporter as one of the top 100 lawyers in the entertainment field for his work as a litigator. 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
- Assisted in launching new film distributors
- Representing lenders in connection with bridge loans and collateralization of multi-picture transactions
- Representing 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
- Purchase of complex film rights in bankruptcy

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.

Mr. Janowitz 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 frequently called upon by the press to comment upon entertainment and other matters. To read samples of such press coverage, please [click here](#).

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*. He is AV Peer Review Rated, Martindale Hubbell's highest peer recognition for ethical standards and legal ability.

Previous Positions

- Reavis & McGrath, Associate

Speaking Engagements

- Presenter, *Employment Issues Affecting The Entrance And Exit Of Attorneys From Private Firms And Corporate Environments*, New York State Bar Association 2010 Annual Meeting, Corporate Counsel Section, New York City (January 27, 2010)
- Guest Lecturer on *Hedge Fund Investment In Media* at SJ Berwin's Media Asset Financing Conference (June 2007)
- Guest Lecturer on *Latin Films Funds and Financing* at the Rio de Janeiro Film Festival (September 2006)

Teaching Positions

- Instructor, Entertainment Law, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law

- Guest Lecturer, Columbia University joint program class offered by the Law, Film and Business Schools

Professional Affiliations

- New York State Bar Association
- Association of the Bar of the City of New York

Distinctions

- Named as “Super Lawyer” in Entertainment by *Super Lawyers Corporate Counsel Edition* magazine (2009)
- Named by *The Best Lawyers In America* as one of the leading attorneys in Entertainment Law (2010, 2011 & 2012 editions)
- Named by *Chambers USA, America’s Leading Lawyers for Business*, as one of the top attorneys in Media and Entertainment (2009-11 editions)
- Named among the “Best Of The Best” attorneys in Entertainment by *Best of the Best USA 2009*
- Named as “Super Lawyer” in Entertainment by *New York Super Lawyers – Metro Edition* magazine (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 & 2011 editions)
- Named by *The Hollywood Reporter, Esq.* as one of the “100 Most Influential Attorneys in Entertainment” in its “Power Lawyers” selections (2007, 2008, 2009 & 2011 editions)
- Named by *Legal 500 – Intellectual Property, Technology, Media & Telecoms US* as one of the top attorneys in the areas of Film Production and Finance, Media and Intellectual Property (2007-08 editions)
- Selected for inclusion in *Who's Who In America*

News

- Pryor Cashman Represents Ed Pressman In Negotiations with Henry Joost and Ariel Schulman for Film Adaptation of Edward Abbey’s *The Monkey Wrench Gang*
- Partner James Janowitz Quoted in Law360 Article About Disney Suit
- Pryor Cashman’s Entertainment, Media and Communications Group Recognized by Law 360 Among Top 5 Groups in the U.S. for 2011
- Pryor Cashman Defeats Motion to Dismiss in Paramount Pictures Film Financing Case
- Partner James Janowitz Speaks to The Note About Palin Defamation Case
- 30 Pryor Cashman Attorneys Selected as NYC Super Lawyers
- Partners James Janowitz, Ronald Kremnitzer and Judith Poller Named Among Top 100 Lawyers In NYC by New York Super Lawyers
- Partners Caden, Heicklen, Janowitz, Kay, Kremnitzer, Poller, Rayner and Schuck Named Among “Best Lawyers in America”
- Pryor Cashman Obtains Significant Art Law Ruling Involving Egon Schiele Drawing

- Partner James Janowitz Named to Hollywood Reporter's List of Power Lawyers
- Chambers USA Recognizes Pryor Cashman As One Of Top Firms In USA In Corporate Law, Mergers & Acquisitions and Media & Entertainment
- Pryor Cashman Represents Courtney Love-Cobain in Closely-Watched Social Media Defamation Case in Los Angeles
- Partners Caden, Janowitz, Kay, Kremnitzer, Rayner and Schuck Named Among "Best Lawyers In America"
- Twenty Pryor Cashman Partners Selected as NYC Super Lawyers
- Chambers USA Recognizes Pryor Cashman as One of Top Firms in USA in Fields of Corporate Law, Mergers & Acquisitions and Media & Entertainment
- Pryor Cashman Represents Lions Gate Films, Inc. in Efforts to Purchase Terminator Film Series
- Partner James Janowitz Speaks at NYSBA Annual Convention in NYC
- Partners Janowitz, Kay, Kremnitzer and Schuck Named Among "Best Lawyers In America"
- Four Pryor Cashman Partners Named Super Lawyers in Corporate Counsel Edition
- Partner James Janowitz Named to Hollywood Reporter's List of Power Lawyers for Third Consecutive Year
- Fourteen Pryor Cashman Partners Selected as 2009 New York Super Lawyers
- Partner James Janowitz Speaks to Hollywood Reporter About Film Financing Issues
- Chambers USA Again Rates Pryor Cashman as One of Top U.S. Firms in Fields of Media and Entertainment
- Partner James Janowitz Named Among "Best Of The Best" in Entertainment Law
- Pryor Cashman Files Securities Fraud Action on Behalf of Investors Against Paramount
- Eleven Pryor Cashman Partners Selected as 2008 New York Super Lawyers
- Partners James Janowitz and Howard Siegel Make Hollywood Reporter List of 100 Most Influential Attorneys in Entertainment Industry
- Legal 500 US 2008 Names Pryor Cashman as One of Top Media, Technology and Telecoms firms in U.S.
- Partner James Janowitz Appears on CNBC to Discuss Implications of Suit Against UBS to Recover Subprime Losses
- Partners Janowitz, Hoffman, Rodner and Kaufman Selected as New York Super Lawyers
- Partners Howard Siegel and James Janowitz Make Top 100 Power Lawyers List
- Five Pryor Cashman Attorneys (Ferber, Janowitz, B. Rose, Zakarin and Knight) Named Top U.S. Lawyers By Legal 500

- Partner Jim Janowitz and Counsel Wilder Knight Named as Top Film Production and Finance Lawyers by Legal 500
- Pryor Cashman Assists MGM International Networks in Expanding Global Reach
- Pryor Cashman Represents Hedge Fund In Major Motion Picture Financing Deal

Events

- Partner James Janowitz Speaks At NYSBA Annual Convention In NYC
- Partner James Janowitz to Speak at Seminar About Media Asset Financing