

Entertainment Attorney Gary Sommerstein Joins Pryor Cashman Los Angeles Office As Partner

Pryor Cashman LLP announced today that Gary I. Sommerstein has joined the law firm.

Sommerstein, who represents MGM, Summit Entertainment, Nikki Taylor, Televisa, and BabyFirst TV, among others, has joined the Los Angeles office as a partner in the Entertainment, Media and Communications Practice Group.

Sommerstein has over 17 years experience orchestrating large, complex and innovative entertainment transactions, including international /domestic film and television development as well as production and distribution deals.

Prior to joining Pryor Cashman, Sommerstein was head of the Entertainment Law Practice Group at Christensen, Glaser, Fink, Jacobs, Weil & Shapiro for the past eight years. Among his accomplishments, Sommerstein has been recognized by *California Law Business* as one of the top entertainment lawyers in Los Angeles.

James A. Janowitz, head of the firm's Entertainment, Media and Communications Practice, said: "Gary is a great fit with our practice and has an excellent and well-deserved reputation."

Sommerstein, a member of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, was previously Head of Business Affairs and Executive in Charge of Production for Andy Solt Productions, one of television's top Emmy-award winning independent production companies. As Head of Business Affairs, Sommerstein handled all aspects of the acquisition, development, production, clearance and international distribution of network specials, reality, documentary, and animation programming.

The Los Angeles native received his J.D., from the University of Southern California Law Center and his B.A. in Economics/Business from UCLA. He will be working with Karen Robson, head of Pryor Cashman's Los Angeles office, who focuses on film finance and production.

Pryor Cashman has grown rapidly in recent years, and now has approximately 130 attorneys in New York and Los Angeles. When the firm was founded in New York in 1963, most of its clients were in the music, publishing and motion picture industries.