

Mark Litwak

Attorney at Law at Law Offices of Mark Litwak & Associates

Beverly Hills, CA, US

Author and Attorney that addresses Entertainment Law issues

Biography

Mark Litwak is an entertainment attorney based in Beverly Hills, California. His practice includes work in the areas of copyright, trademark, contract, multimedia law, intellectual property, and book publishing. As a Producer's Representative, he assists filmmakers in arranging financing, marketing and distribution of their films. His filmmaker clients have had award winning films in Cannes, Toronto, Telluride and other festivals. He also serves as an Expert Witness Litwak is the author of six books: Reel Power, The Struggle for Influence and Success in the New Hollywood (William Morrow, 1986), Courtroom Crusaders (William Morrow, 1989), Dealmaking in the Film & Television Industry (Silman-James Press, 1994) (winner of the 1996 Krazna-Kranz award for best book in the world on the film business), Contracts for the Film & Television Industry (Silman-James Press, 2nd Ed. 1999), Litwak's Multimedia Producer's Handbook (Silman-James Press, 1998) and Risky Business: Financing and Distributing Independent Film (Silman-James Press, 2004). He has contributed articles for The Los Angeles Times, The Business of Film, The Hollywood Reporter, Moviemaker and The Independent. He is the creator of the popular CD-ROM program Movie Magic Contracts. He has an AV Peer Review Rating from Martindale-Hubbell and has been named a Southern California Super Lawyer by Law & Politics magazine in 2006 and 2007. A frequent speaker, he has presented seminars across the United States, and in England, Australia, South Africa and Canada including presentations for the American Film Institute, Columbia University, N.Y.U, U.S.C, the University of British Columbia and the Royal College of Art in London. Litwak has been interviewed on more than 100 television and radio shows including ABC News, "The Larry King Show," National Public Radio's "All Things Considered," and CNN. He has been the subject of articles in California Law Business, Australian Lawyer and L.A. Weekly. He is the creator of the Magellan 4 Star site, Entertainment Law Resources, at www.marklitwak.com. Litwak was featured in a 2006 article in Southern California Super Lawyers magazine. You can read the article by clicking [THIS LINK](#).

Availability

Keynote, Moderator, Panelist, Author Appearance

Industry Expertise

Motion Pictures and Film, Legal Services, Entertainment

Areas of Expertise

Risky Business, Financing and Distributing Independent Films, Protecting Film Investors, Film Finance

Affiliations

University of Southern California School of Law

Sample Talks

Risky Business, Financing and Distributing Independent Films

This comprehensive seminar explores how independent films are financed and distributed. Topics include financing via pre sales, debt and limited partnerships, negotiating tactics, typical contract terms, cross collateralization and creative accounting. Particular attention is paid to how producers and filmmakers can protect themselves by watering down warranties, getting added to the E & O policy, adding performance, termination and arbitration provisions, using lab access letter to retain possession of the negative, and a schedule a minimums. The seminar includes a handout with a distribution contract, articles, a self defense checklist and other materials. Other topics include criteria for selecting a distributor; what is negotiable and what is not; compliance with state and federal laws when seeking investors; retaining an attorney or producer's rep; confirming arbitration awards in Superior Court; and, enforcing judgments.

Event Appearances

Distributing Independent Films

SPADA

Education

Queens College of the City University of New York

BA, MA Social Psychology, Urban Studies

University of San Diego School of Law

J.D. Law

Accomplishments

AV Peer Review Rating from Martindale-Hubbell

Southern California Super Lawyer by Law & Politics magazine

designated numerous times a S. California Super Lawyer

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