Sixth Annual Media & Entertainment Law Symposium

Tuesday, February 18, 2020
9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Costantino Room
PROGRAM

9:30 – 10 a.m.
Check-In & Welcome

10 – 11 a.m.
Welcome to the Streaming Age: Acquisitions, Competition, and the Digital Future
(1.0 Professional Practice)

• Scott Jaffee ’98, Senior Vice President, Legal Affairs, WarnerMedia Entertainment
• Paul M. Robinson ’83, Executive Vice President & General Counsel, Warner Music Group
• Khadijah Sharif-Drinkard ’97, Senior Vice President, Business and Legal Affairs, ViacomCBS Media Networks/BET Networks
• Moderator: Derek Dessler, Adjunct Professor, Fordham Law School and Founder and Principal, Dessler, P.C.

11 – 11:15 a.m.
Break

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Follow You Until You Love Me: Paparazzi and the Law
(1.0 Professional Practice)

• Samantha Katze ’07, Partner, Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP
• Bradley Mullins, Partner, Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP
• John Quinn, Partner, Kaplan Hecker & Fink LLP
• Nancy Wolff, Partner, Cowan, DeBaets, Abrahams & Sheppard, LLP
• Moderator: Olivier Sylvain, Professor, Fordham Law School and Director, McGannon Center

12:15 – 12:45 p.m.
Lunch

12:45 – 1:15 p.m.
Keynote Address

• Drew Cohen ’93, President & CEO, Music Theatre International (MTI)

1:15 – 2:15 p.m.
Enemy of The People?: Fake News and the Media’s Legal Challenges
(1.0 Professional Practice)
(Conducted by the American Constitution Society for Law and Policy and Fordham Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies)

• Ramya Krishnan, Staff Attorney, Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University
• David Lat, Founding Editor, Above the Law
• Libby Locke, Founding Partner, Clare Locke LLP
• David E. McCraw, Senior Vice President & Deputy General Counsel, The New York Times Company
• Moderator: Katherine M. Bolger, Adjunct Professor, Fordham Law School and Partner, Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP

2:15 – 2:30 p.m.
Closing Remarks

This program is sponsored by Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP; Cowan, DeBaets, Abrahams & Sheppard LLP; Latham & Watkins, LLP; Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP
Katherine M. Bolger
Adjunct Professor, Fordham Law School
Partner, Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP
Kate is an experienced First Amendment and media litigator who has represented news and entertainment companies in a broad spectrum of content-related matters, ranging from investigative journalism to coverage of celebrities. In addition to defending media clients in court, Kate regularly counsels newspapers, magazines, and book publishers about prepublication issues, and advises authors on contract, electronic publishing, and intellectual property matters. Chambers USA reports that clients have described Kate as “incredibly bright, very strategic, and an exceptionally strong writer” who is “a very effective litigator” and “the lawyer I would want the most in a New York state court street fight.” Before joining DWT, Kate was a partner at Levine Sullivan Koch & Schulz LLP.

Drew Cohen ’93
President & CEO
Music Theatre International (MTI)
Drew Cohen is the President and CEO of Music Theatre International (“MTI”). MTI is the world’s leading licensor of Broadway musicals, representing the dramatic performing rights to shows such as “West Side Story,” “Fiddler on the Roof,” “Les Miserables,” “Come From Away,” “The Book of Mormon,” “The Producers,” “Beetlejuice,” “Mean Girls,” and the works of Stephen Sondheim. MTI licenses over 100,000 performances a year in 50 countries around the world. MTI created the Broadway Junior® collection of abridged musicals for middle and elementary schools to perform. MTI is also the leading provider of theatrical resources that employ new technologies to eliminate production and pre-production obstacles that MTI’s licensees/producers face in mounting their productions. Cohen is also a member of the Recording Academy’s Musical Theatre Grammy Task Force and a Mentor in the Broadway Tech Accelerator.

Cohen’s early career included four years as an attorney in New York with the law firm Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, after which he joined GlassNote Records and served as its V.P./General Manager. Subsequently, he earned a master’s degree from Harvard Business School and was then Director of Investments for a private family fund overseeing a portfolio of investments in hedge funds, private equity funds and direct investments in early stage ventures. He is a graduate of Tufts University and Fordham Law School.

Derek Dessler
Adjunct Professor, Fordham Law School
Founder and Principal, Dessler, P.C.
Derek Dessler is an attorney with over 20 years of experience focusing on entertainment and media, new technology, the arts, and related intellectual property and corporate matters. His work routinely includes matters at the intersection of intellectual property rights and new technology, and he regularly advises clients on issues relating to the ongoing convergence of technology and content, including new technologies for distributing and monetizing content.

Over the past 20 years he has successfully negotiated and closed hundreds of transactions, big and small, ranging from customary industry agreements, to joint ventures, to strategic corporate transactions (such as mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, investments, and related due diligence reviews), and involving parties from around the world, including the United States, China, and Europe.

Before founding his own firm he served for 14 years as a legal and business affairs executive at the Universal Music Group (UMG), where his roles included: Vice President, Legal and Business Affairs, of UMG’s worldwide corporate unit; General Counsel and Senior Vice President, Business Affairs, of Universal’s start-up “music video” cable and satellite television network, branded IMF – International Music Feed; and Vice President, Legal and Business Affairs, of UMG’s Universal Motown Records Group (now the East Coast Labels Group).

Derek represents companies and individuals, established and emerging, including: recording artists, songwriters, DJs, producers, and other entertainers and creative talent; personal managers; promoters of live events; the “major” recorded music companies; music publishers; cable television networks; software developers and publishers; filmmakers; visual artists; and galleries. These clients are based around the world and range from global corporations and other established businesses, to small, entrepreneurial startups, to investors. He also often serves as outside general counsel for many of his clients.

Scott Jaffee ’98
Senior Vice President, Legal Affairs
WarnerMedia Entertainment
Scott Jaffee is the Senior Vice President, Legal Affairs for WarnerMedia Entertainment. He oversees the business and legal affairs teams tasked with acquiring major studio theatrical releases, independent films, Spanish-language content and international programming for
HBO, Cinemax and their channels and platforms. For the past year, he has advised the management team for HBO Max, Warner Media’s new streaming platform launching in May of this year. He also oversees legal entity management and other general corporate matters across WarnerMedia’s legacy HBO, Turner and CNN network groups.

Prior to joining HBO, Scott worked at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP in New York, where he was a senior associate in the Business & Finance group. His practice focused on secured and unsecured lending, private equity and bankruptcy and restructuring, specializing in the production, finance and distribution of motion pictures and television programming.

Scott received his BA from Binghamton University and his JD from Fordham University. He was the Business Editor of the Intellectual Property, Media and Entertainment Law Journal, as well as one of the founding members of the Fordham Sports Law Society & Symposium.

Samantha Katze ’07
Partner
Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP
Samantha Katze is a commercial and intellectual property litigator in the New York office of Manatt, Phelps & Phillips. Samantha has experience in a broad range of complex commercial and intellectual property disputes.

As part of her commercial litigation practice, Samantha handles matters involving claims of breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, tortious interference, breach of restrictive covenants, misappropriation of trade secrets, unfair competition, defamation, and securities fraud, as well as trusts and estates issues. In addition, Samantha litigates direct and derivative claims involving disputes among business owners such as shareholders, LLC members and partners, and defends against class actions.

With respect to intellectual property, Samantha handles matters involving copyright, trademark and trade dress infringement, dilution, unfair competition and false advertising claims. In addition, she represents clients in opposition and cancellation proceedings before the United States Patent and Trademark Office’s Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB).

Samantha has also litigated issues concerning the Communications Decency Act, the Stored Communications Act, the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act and the Electronic Communications Privacy Act. She represents clients across a wide range of industries, including real estate, financial services, retail and consumer products, media, entertainment, healthcare and energy.

Samantha has represented clients in a variety of forums, including the New York state and federal courts; federal courts in California, New Jersey, Texas and Wisconsin; the TTAB; mediations; and arbitral proceedings before the American Arbitration Association and the International Chamber of Commerce.

Samantha received her law degree from Fordham University School of Law where she was the Notes and Articles Editor of the Intellectual Property, Media and Entertainment Law Journal. Samantha also received an A.B., with distinction, from Cornell University.

Ramya Krishnan
Staff Attorney
Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University
Ramya Krishnan is a staff attorney at the Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University, where she works on issues related to government transparency, surveillance, and social media. Ramya joined the Knight Institute as its inaugural legal fellow. She is a graduate of Columbia Law School and the University of Sydney, where she served as an editor of the Sydney Law Review. She previously worked at Australia’s Attorney-General’s Department, where she litigated several high-profile constitutional and administrative law cases, including in the High Court of Australia. From 2013-2014, she served as law clerk for the Hon. Robert Beech Jones of the Supreme Court of New South Wales. She has been published or quoted in the Washington Post, NBC News, The Intercept, The Columbia Journalism Review, and Just Security.

David Lat
Founding Editor
Above the Law
David Lat is founding editor of Above the Law, an award-winning website about the legal profession that reaches more than 1 million unique visitors a month. David’s writing has also appeared in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the Washington Post, among other publications. Prior to Above the Law, he launched Underneath Their Robes, a blog about federal judges.

Before entering the media world, David worked as a federal prosecutor in Newark, New Jersey; a litigation associate at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, in New York; and a law clerk to Judge Diarmuid F. O’Scannlain of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. David
graduated from Harvard College and Yale Law School, where he served as an editor of the Yale Law Journal.


Libby Locke
Founding Partner
Clare Locke LLP
Libby is one of the country’s most sought-after libel lawyers. She is a trusted counselor and fierce advocate for Fortune 100 companies and high-profile individuals facing existential reputational attacks from the national media and other influential publishers, achieving remarkable results for her clients both in and outside of the courtroom.

After co-founding Clare Locke LLP in 2014, Libby rapidly rose to national prominence for a highly-publicized multi-million dollar trial victory against Rolling Stone magazine about a fictional portrayal of a gang rape at a University of Virginia fraternity. In 2019, she was lead trial counsel and won a $22.35 million jury verdict on behalf of a successful businessman who was defamed by a public company in the course of a proxy fight. A skilled appellate advocate and former federal circuit clerk, in 2019 Libby achieved a rare win against The New York Times on behalf of former Gov. Sarah Palin in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit arising out of a false and defamatory editorial. She is actively litigating matters against a variety of other mainstream news outlets, including CNN and Bloomberg.

Libby’s success in the courtroom gets her results in the newsroom. She regularly advises clients and their PR counsel in dealing with the national media in crisis situations, and some of her biggest wins are the false stories the public will never hear about. She has killed flawed articles, storylines, and broadcast segments in outlets including in The New York Times, The Washington Post, Vanity Fair, The National Enquirer, and on Bloomberg, CBS and The Dr. Oz Show. Libby has also vindicated her clients’ reputations by obtaining retractions of false publications, including by securing a $3.375 million settlement and video apology from the Southern Poverty Law Center, a complete retraction of a Bloomberg podcast, and a multi-article correction from The Chicago Tribune.

Recognized as an expert in libel law and the First Amendment, Libby has been ranked as a Band 1 global defamation / reputation management provider in Chambers & Partners HNW directory every year since its inception in 2016, and she has numerous national awards and accolades from the National Law Journal, including being named as one of D.C.’s 40 Under 40 in 2019. She is regularly asked to speak on issues involving the First Amendment, media, and reputation, including publishing multiple op-eds in The Wall Street Journal and appearing as a guest on Fox News, CNN, and ABC’s 20/20.

Libby graduated from NYU’s College of Arts and Science with a degree in Politics and Economics, and she received her J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center. After law school, she clerked on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, and then began her career in private practice at Kirkland & Ellis. Perhaps the accomplishment of which she is most proud, Libby is a mom of five. She lives in Alexandria, Virginia with her husband and law partner, Tom Clare, their children, and the world’s most spoiled Labrador Retriever, Gipper.

David E. McCraw
Senior Vice President & Deputy General Counsel
The New York Times Company
David McCraw serves as the principal newsroom lawyer for The New York Times. He is the author of the book “Truth in Our Times: Inside the Fight for Press Freedom in the Age of Alternative Facts” (St. Martin’s 2019), a first-person account of the legal battles that helped shape The Times’s coverage of Donald Trump, Harvey Weinstein, national security, and the rise of political partisanship in America. Mr. McCraw has been at The Times for 17 years and currently holds the position of Deputy General Counsel.

In addition to advising the newsroom on libel and other legal issues, he is one of the nation’s most prolific litigators of Freedom of Information cases, having brought more than 60 suits against the federal government. He also oversees international security for Times journalists and has worked as the crisis response manager when reporters and photographers have been kidnapped or detained abroad.

He is a visiting lecturer at Harvard Law School and an adjunct professor at the NYU Law School. He previously was deputy general counsel at the New York Daily News and a litigation associate at Clifford Chance and Rogers & Wells. Mr. McCraw is a graduate of the University of Illinois, Cornell University, and Albany Law School.

Bradley Mullins
Partner
Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP
Bradley J. Mullins is a partner and member of the Entertainment and IP Litigation practice group in the
firm’s Los Angeles office. Brad’s practice focuses on Entertainment and Intellectual Property Litigation, representing many leading businesses and individuals in the music, video game, and film and television industries, as well as emerging and established technology businesses. Brad has a wealth of experience litigating in both state and federal courts across the country, with a concentration on copyright, trademark, and contract and commercial disputes. He received his J.D. from Columbia Law School and a B.A. from University of Wisconsin, Madison.

John Quinn
Partner
Kaplan Hecker & Fink LLP

John Quinn is a partner at Kaplan Hecker & Fink LLP, a cutting-edge boutique litigation firm based in New York City. John was one of the co-founders of the firm in 2017, along with Roberta Kaplan, who is best known for her Supreme Court victory U.S. v. Windsor, which paved the way for same-sex marriage nationwide. John represents businesses and individuals in high-profile civil litigation matters and leads the firm’s efforts in a number of progressive public interest matters. Last year, John successfully defended Gigi Hadid when she was sued for copyright infringement by a paparazzo based on allegations that she posted a photograph of herself to Instagram. John also represents Jennifer Lopez, Ariana Grande, Amber Heard, and a number of other public figures, as well as large tech companies including Airbnb and Uber, a global hedge fund, a prominent real estate developer, a popular theater producer, and a wide range of other commercial and individual clients. John has also spearheaded the development of a massive RICO case against President Trump and his family and businesses, worked on multiple amicus briefs filed in the U.S. Supreme Court in cases challenging various executive actions by the Trump administration, and represented a student-led LGBTQ+ pride organization in Starkville, Mississippi, in a successful constitutional challenge to the city’s denial of a parade permit—and then flew to Starkville to help lead the parade. John was selected by Super Lawyers as a 2018 and 2019 New York Rising Star in Business Litigation and was named one of the Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40 by the National LGBT Bar Association.

Paul M. Robinson ’83
Executive Vice President & General Counsel
Warner Music Group

Paul M. Robinson is Warner Music Group’s Executive Vice President & General Counsel, responsible for WMG’s legal, business affairs and public policy strategy around the world. Paul joined WMG’s legal department in 1995, and was named to his current position in 2006. Before joining WMG, Paul was a partner in the New York City law firm Mayer, Katz, Baker, Leibowitz & Roberts. Paul has a B.A. in English from Williams College. He earned his J.D. from Fordham University School of Law.

Khadijah Sharif-Drinkard ’97
Senior Vice President, Business and Legal Affairs
ViacomCBS Media Networks/BET Networks

Khadijah Sharif-Drinkard serves as Senior Vice President, Business and Legal Affairs, ViacomCBS, where she oversees unscripted programming, music programming, tent poles, specials and news across BET Networks. She is a strong business partner with broad expertise and over 20 years of practicing law in the media and entertainment field. Khadijah structures and negotiates a wide variety of transactions in connection with the development, production, acquisition and distribution of content across platforms. Her experience as a skilled business executive and deal maker has been paramount in bringing deals to closure for a number of high profile projects. Prior to working at BET Networks, Khadijah served as Vice President, Senior Counsel at Nickelodeon where she helped to launch “Dora the Explorer”, “Diego” and “The Backyardigans” and worked on shows like “Spongebob Squarepants” along with other hits. Khadijah serves as Chairwoman of the Board of Directors for the Black Entertainment & Sports Lawyers Association (BESLA) and as President of the Board for Columbia College Women (CCW). She received the inaugural Medal of Honor from the New Jersey Muslim Lawyers Association in 2019, the inaugural Corporate Counsel of the Year Award from the Muslim Bar Association of New York (MuBANY) in 2018 and the Luminary Award for her business acumen and her commitment to diversity and inclusion from the National Association of Multi-Ethnicity in Communications (NAMIC).

Khadijah has traveled and served on delegations to South Africa, Rome, Russia, China, the United Kingdom and has worked with the United Nations to assist aspiring business women from Iraq. She contributed to a book entitled Living Islam Out Loud: American Muslim Women Speak (Beacon Press) where she chronicles her journey as an activist and a Muslim American. Khadijah earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Columbia University and her Juris Doctor from Fordham University School of Law. She lives in New Jersey with her husband and two daughters.
Olivier Sylvain  
Professor, Fordham Law School  
Director, McGannon Center

Olivier Sylvain is a Professor of Law at Fordham University School of Law. His academic interests are chiefly in information and communications law and policy. He teaches and writes about current controversies in communications policy, online intermediary liability, and privacy. At Fordham, Olivier teaches Legislation & Regulation, Administrative Law, Information Law, and information law related courses. He is the Director of the McGannon Center for Communications Research. He is also affiliated with the Center for Law and Information Policy and the Center on Race, Law, and Justice. Before entering academia, Olivier was a Karpatkin Fellow in the National Legal Office of the American Civil Liberties Union in New York City and a litigation associate at Jenner & Block, LLC, in Washington, D.C. He is on the board of directors for the New York affiliate of the American Civil Liberties Union and teaches a class on modern American literature for local incarcerated men.

Nancy Wolff  
Partner  
Cowan, DeBaets, Abrahams, and Sheppard, LLP

Nancy Wolff is a partner at the intellectual property, media and entertainment law firm of Cowan, DeBaets, Abrahams & Sheppard, LLP located in New York, New York and Beverly Hills, CA. She represents a wide range of creative individuals and companies in all areas of digital media, art law, licensing and publishing and serves as counsel to the Digital Media Licensing Association. Nancy is co-chair of the firm’s litigation department and handles pre-pub review as well as transactional matters involving copyright and licensing. Nancy is a frequent speaker throughout the United States and Europe on copyright, digital media, and licensing and has received significant recognition for her expertise in copyright law. She is the Immediate Past President of the Copyright Society of the USA (CSUSA) and a member of the ABA IP Task Force on Copyright Reform. She was named Best Lawyers® 2020 “Lawyer of the Year” in Trademark Law (New York City), ranked in Chambers and Partners USA for Intellectual Property: Trade Mark & Copyright (New York) and was selected to Managing IP’s “Top 250 Women in IP” 2018/19 list. She has also been named to the Super Lawyers Intellectual Property top 250 lawyers, Top 50 Female Lawyers (New York Metro) and Top 100 Lawyers (New York Metro) lists.

GUEST WI-FI ACCESS
Visitors to campus may use either the Fordham-P or FordhamGuest network. The Fordham-P network is more secure than the FordhamGuest network, which is intended for the convenience of campus visitors. FordhamGuest provides unprotected and insecure access to the Internet, allows basic web browsing, and is limited to Internet-available services. Do not use the network for the exchange of sensitive or personal information.

FORDHAM-P NETWORK
1. Go to Settings>Wi-Fi and select Connect-Fordham-WiFi.
2. Open your web browser and navigate to a frequently refreshed URL, such as CNN.com. You will automatically be directed to the Fordham network welcome page. Select Join as a Guest. (Note: For Apple iOS devices, use only the Safari browser for this process.)
3. Agree to the acceptable use policy. You will be directed to a new website. Click Join Now.
4. Follow the prompts to complete the process, which includes downloading/installing a small configuration file that allows you to connect to our public Wi-Fi network. You may need to enter the password for the device/computer to complete the process.
5. You'll receive a message confirming that you've joined the network. Click Done.

Guest Wi-Fi is available throughout Fordham University’s Lincoln Center campus. While guest access does not expire, on subsequent use with your device/computer, you may be prompted to agree to the acceptable use policy.

For more detailed, device- or computer-specific instructions, visit www.fordham.edu/wireless, pick up a more detailed instruction sheet at the information desk, or call the Fordham Law Helpdesk at 212-636-6786.

FORDHAM GUEST NETWORK
1. Go to Settings>Wi-Fi and select FordhamGuest and connect
2. Click on the "Accept" button

By choosing the “Accept” button, you indicate that you accept the risks associated with using the [Fordham Guest] network. Fordham is not responsible for any problems that might arise as a result of using this network.

CLE CREDIT
CLE credit for the program is approved in accordance with the requirements of the New York and New Jersey States CLE Board for a maximum of 3 transitional and non transitional credits: (3.0) professional practice.

CLE course materials available at: law.fordham.edu/clematerials

For more information, contact fordmins@gmail.com
About the Fordham Media & Entertainment Law Society Symposium

Now in its sixth year, the Fordham Media & Entertainment Law Society Symposium is dedicated to exploring cutting-edge legal issues facing the media and entertainment industries. The Symposium offers a unique opportunity for students, faculty, and practitioners with a range of experience and expertise to discuss industry developments and network with influential leaders from major corporations, academia, and private practice.

2019-2020 Fordham Media & Entertainment Law Society Board

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