



Michael S. Anderson

Shareholder

Mike's practice involves complex commercial disputes regarding intellectual property, insurance, securities, and constitutional, international, and comparative law. As a result of his unique background, he also has developed expertise specific to media and entertainment law and handles a variety of issues for his clients throughout the television, film, and music industries. He has experience at all levels of litigation from trial court to final appeal and especially enjoys helping innovative startups find creative solutions to practical and legal dilemmas.

As one of the leaders of Parr Brown's Entertainment Law practice, Mike has represented numerous executives, entertainers, and artists on a wide variety of deals, litigation, and other projects throughout the entertainment industry, including directors, screenwriters, actors, producers, record labels, bands, musicians, composers, publishers, authors, sports leagues, teams, athletes, radio shows, networks, newspapers, artists, painters, sculptors, talent agencies, agents, theaters, dance companies, arts organizations, conventions, concerts, community events, festivals, and many others. He enjoys working on anything, whether small or large, from a basic agreement in the early stages to a major-label recording contract, hit television show, and Oscar-nominated movie. Mike volunteers his time helping several local events and arts organizations, founded the Entertainment Law section of the Utah State Bar, and speaks regularly on media and entertainment law issues.

With Parr Brown's Media and First Amendment group, Mike helps businesses and individuals with a variety of privacy, defamation, and public-access issues under state and federal law. He regularly assists journalists and others seeking access to information from the government through the Freedom of Information Act and Utah's Government Records Access and Management Act (GRAMA) or Open and Public Meetings Act.

Since first joining Parr Brown, Mike has devoted a significant part of his practice to pro bono work. Through Parr Brown's Freedom of Information Hotline, he has handled countless public-access cases. With the ACLU, he and other Parr Brown attorneys challenged the constitutionality of Ogden's "anti-gang injunction," which the Utah Supreme Court invalidated as a result of their appeal. On behalf of a coalition of media outlets, he helped secure the release of surveillance footage of a fatal shooting during a criminal proceeding in a federal courtroom. And with other Parr Brown attorneys, he has been helping refugees seek asylum in the United

CONTACT INFORMATION

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PRACTICE AREAS

Commercial Litigation Services

Appeals

Contract Dispute Attorneys

Entertainment Law

Federal and State Courts

Media and First Amendment

International Services

Technology

Intellectual Property and Technology

Internet and E-commerce

Insurance and Bad Faith

Securities Litigation

Risk Management and Insurance Coverage

EDUCATION

J.D., Columbia University; Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar; Parker School Certificate in Foreign and Comparative Law; Articles Editor, Columbia Journal of Transnational Law

LL.M., King's College London; With Distinction

Honors B.S., University of Utah; Magna Cum Laude

University of Cambridge (UK)

BAR ADMISSIONS

United States Supreme Court

Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals

Utah

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Vice Chair, Salt Lake County Community & Economic Development Advisory Council (Member 2018-2020)

Co-chair, Bench-Media Subcommittee of the Utah Judicial Council

Member (Legal Media Representative), Utah Judicial Council Standing Committee on Judicial Outreach

Leadership Utah, Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce

Treasurer, Entertainment Law Section of Utah State Bar (Secretary 2018-19)

Board Member, Utah Independent Business Coalition

Steering Committee Member, Meritas Global Entertainment Law Practice Group

Board Member, Utah Arts Alliance

ACLU of Utah

David K. Watkiss - Sutherland II Inn of Court

Media Law Resource Center

Mike's accomplishments have been fueled by a tireless work ethic. Prior to joining Parr Brown, he won an award at an international film festival, managed political campaigns, was a licensed stockbroker, backpacked throughout Europe twice, volunteered at a civil-rights organization to help families displaced by hurricanes, and slept at countless truck stops across the country as the singer and guitarist for a touring rock band. During his first two years at Columbia Law School, he was named a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar each year, elected by his peers to several governing bodies, selected for publication by the Columbia Journal of Transnational Law, awarded recognition for achievement in international and comparative law, and chosen to join Columbia's national moot court team in constitutional law. Asked to direct that team in his second year, he led four Columbia teams to sweep first through fourth place nationally, which was unprecedented and remains unmatched. During his third year, he moved to England and earned a master of laws from King's College London with distinction, the school's highest award.

But Mike is not particularly interested in fancy pieces of paper. He instead enjoys all sorts of movies, books, music, travel, podcasts, and games, whether obsessing over sports analytics or defending his team's title at "geek trivia" nights around town. In 2013, he started a record label with other professional musicians, and the label's first release reached #1 on Billboard's list of independent albums, among other accolades.

For the last five years, *Super Lawyers* has named Mike a "Rising Star," a recognition awarded to no more than 2.5 percent of lawyers each year, for his work in litigation and entertainment law.

In the News:

- [Super Lawyers - Mountain States 2020 Courtroom Artist - Almost Famous: Mike Anderson on his days as a touring musician \(by Andrew Brandt\)](#)

Publications and Speaking Engagements:

Co-Author, Open Government Guide: Access to Public Records and Meetings in Utah

Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press

Co-Author, Utah Reporter's Privilege Compendium

Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press

Co-Author, Utah Open Courts Compendium

Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press

Co-Author, Survey of Utah Employment Privacy Law

Media Law Resource Center

Co-Author, Survey of Utah Privacy and Related Claims Against the Media

Media Law Resource Center

Co-Author, Survey of Utah Libel Law

Media Law Resource Center

Humor and Building Effective Relationships (with Cartoonist/Author Pat Bagley)

Utah Bar Convention, July 2018

Courtrooms, Newsrooms, and the First Amendment
Utah State Bar: Law Day, May 2019

Morality Clauses in Entertainment Contracts
Utah Entertainment Law Section, May 2019

The Post and the Pentagon Papers (with Judge Jill Pohlman, Utah Court
of Appeals, and McKenzie Romero, Deseret News)
Utah Bar Convention, July 2019

Know Your Rights: Contracts for the Artist
FanX® Salt Lake Comic Convention™, September 2019

Law School for Journalists: Reporting on the Juvenile Court
Utah State Bar, December 2019

