

Film & Television

Supporting the Screen

For more than thirty years, North Carolina has been a hot spot for film, television and commercial productions. Our entertainment practice has broad experience counseling and representing clients located in North Carolina and beyond, including production studios and independent production companies, as well as the individual producers, directors, actors and screenwriters who make entertainment projects happen.

We work with a broad array of projects, from low-budget independent motion pictures to studio-backed film and television productions, as well as other creative projects in different formats and media, such as music videos, commercials and online digital content.

Our experience includes:

- Project inception, including production company formation and the purchase or other acquisition of rights for use in productions
- Development matters, including protection of project ideas, copyright registration and navigating private investor financing legal requirements
- Negotiating talent agreements as well as subject appearance agreements for documentaries, unscripted (reality) TV and other projects
- Pre-production matters, including music and content licensing, script review and location agreements
- Drafting and negotiating production contracts and other agreements with cast and crew
- Preparing and negotiating agreements and securing court approval of agreements when using minors as talent
- Copyright clearances, including copyright fair use considerations, obtaining necessary permissions and managing chain-of-title documents
- Assisting in securing errors and omissions insurance
- Reviewing and negotiating distribution agreements and contracts with sales agents
- Handling litigation and other dispute resolution methods involving entertainment projects and producers' or artists' rights
- Navigating state tax incentive credits and applications ([click here for more information about North Carolina's film incentive program](#))

- Lobbying before state and federal legislative assemblies on behalf of the film and television industries

How can we help support your screen projects?

PEOPLE

Stephen Hartzell

Noah Hock

David Kushner

Timothy G. Nelson

Mark J. Prak

Coe W. Ramsey

David W. Sar

Elizabeth Spainhour

Marcus Trathen

Thomas G. Varnum

NEWSROOM

News

Brooks Pierce Sponsors 28th Annual Cucalorus Film Festival

11.17.2022

Brooks Pierce Receives 41 Tier-One Rankings in 2023 "Best Lawyers"

11.03.2022

Brooks Pierce Partners Represented The E.W. Scripps Company in its Acquisition of ION Media

01.26.2021

Wade Hargrove Featured in UNC-TV's NC Broadcast Legends Program

UNC-TV, 07.09.2020

Mark Prak Quoted in Article on TVnewscheck.com
TVnewscheck.com, 06.12.2020

Events

Brooks Pierce Sponsors 27th Annual Cucalorus Film Festival
10.19.2021

Brooks Pierce Partner to Host Workshop at LongLeaf Film Festival
05.05.2021

Thomas Varnum Participates in NC Film Forum
07.21.2020

Tim Nelson Serves as Panelist for ABA/FCBA “Representing Your Local Broadcaster” Conference
08.02.2018

Publications

North Carolina Legislative Update, January 14, 2020
01.14.2020