



Coe W. Ramsey
PARTNER

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Coe W. Ramsey is a media and entertainment lawyer with an emphasis in broadcast, music, and intellectual property law. A former disc jockey, Coe represents radio and television stations, programming networks, music-related businesses, musicians, producers, artists, new media companies, and others in nearly every area of media and entertainment law.

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

Coe's communications and media practice focuses on FCC regulatory, transactional, corporate and intellectual property (copyright and trademark) matters. Coe represents radio and television operators throughout the country. He counsels and advocates for clients on a variety of issues, including buying and selling radio and television stations, FCC ownership rules and policies, ATSC 3.0, digital broadcasting, and other new technology deployments, broadcast licensing and renewals, programming issues, cable and satellite carriage, political advertising, and music licensing. Coe also works with programming networks and new media companies, including national networks, Internet broadcasters, OTT and other digital programming networks and platforms, and app developers, and assists them on a variety of issues, including content acquisition and protection, distribution, licensing, privacy, terms and conditions, and advertising and promotions.

"My passions for media and entertainment stem from my previous years of experience in the business and fuel my law practice. It doesn't get any better than working with clients in these industries."

MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW

Coe has a diverse entertainment practice that includes matters related to music, radio, film, television, and publishing. His passion for broadcasting and music stems from his years of experience in the industry as a DJ, re-mixer, and producer. A former mix show DJ for Greensboro, NC, radio station 102 JAMZ (WJMH), Coe has a deep understanding of the complex legal problems that entertainment clients face. He is a leading entertainment lawyer and counsels a variety of clients including artists, musicians, producers, radio and television stations, record and publishing companies, new media companies, advertisers, DJs, authors, and other related ventures in nearly every area of entertainment law. He represents clients on a variety of issues, including contract drafting and negotiation, music licensing, management agreements, record agreements, publishing agreements, copyright, trademark, litigation, intellectual property disputes, legal structures for bands, life story rights, sponsorship agreements, advertising, SAG-AFTRA, privacy, and formation and financing of entertainment companies.

The 2017 *Chambers USA* guide states that, "Coe Ramsey frequently acts in IP matters arising from the entertainment space, advising on areas such as litigation and contract negotiations. 'He is amazing, and I won't use anyone else,' asserts one interviewee."

Coe teaches entertainment law as an adjunct professor at Wake Forest University School of Law.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Coe assists clients in virtually all aspects of intellectual property with an emphasis on copyright, trademark, and right to publicity matters. Coe's clients include radio and television stations, programming networks, new media companies, artists and musicians, record and publishing companies, advertisers, Internet broadcasters, OTT and other digital programming networks and platforms, and other media and entertainment companies and entrepreneurs whose businesses involve intellectual property matters. He represents clients on a variety of issues, including contract drafting and negotiation, licensing, intellectual property protection, and litigation. Coe teaches intellectual property law as an adjunct professor of entertainment law at Wake Forest University School of Law.

SERVICES

Corporate & Business

Entertainment

Entity Formation

Film & Television

Intellectual Property

Media, Publishing & Communications

Mergers & Acquisitions

Music

Technology

Utilities & Telecom

Advertising

CREDENTIALS

Honors & Recognitions

Recognized in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* for Intellectual Property Law (2016-2022)

Selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Entertainment Law - Music, Litigation - Intellectual Property (2019-2023) and Copyright Law (Raleigh "Lawyer of the Year" 2022) (2021-2023)

Recognized in *North Carolina Super Lawyers* (Thomson Reuters) in Entertainment and Sports Law (2019-2021) and as a "Rising Star" in Entertainment & Sports Law (2011-2012) and Communications Law (2009)

Recipient, Irving E. Carlyle Distinguished Law Scholarship

AV® Preeminent™, Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review Rating

Education

Wake Forest University School of Law, J.D., 1998, *cum laude*; Order of the Coif; Managing Editor, *Wake Forest Law Review*, 1997-98 **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**, B.A., 1994

Admissions

North Carolina

Tennessee

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC

Adjunct Professor, Wake Forest University School of Law (2013-present)

Chair, Sports and Entertainment Law Section, North Carolina Bar Association (2010-2011)

Council Member, Sports and Entertainment Law Section, North Carolina Bar Association (2008-present)

Member, Federal Communications Bar Association (1998-present)

Member, North Carolina Bar Association (1998-present)

ABOUT ME

I am a media and entertainment lawyer because I was a DJ. When I was in high school, I was a mix show DJ on one of the largest stations in the market. I knew at the time that 102 JAMZ was my “ticket,” I just didn’t know to where. My exposure on radio led to years of work as a mobile and nightclub DJ and as a re-mixer/music producer. I have always been fascinated by the power of radio and music. Music has a way of bringing people together unlike any other medium. Watching that happen while you are playing the music, whether from a 99,000 watt radio transmitter or in a DJ booth, is about as good as it gets.

In college, my philosophy classes introduced me to another passion – law. I realized there could be no better way to combine my passions than to become a media and entertainment lawyer. Broadcasters, entertainment entrepreneurs, musicians, artists, filmmakers, producers, and I are kindred spirits. My experience in and understanding of their businesses give me a unique legal perspective. Applying this perspective for clients in entertainment and media industries, advising and navigating them through legal issues, and helping them succeed is my passion.

NEWSROOM

News

Brooks Pierce Attorneys Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2023 Guide
08.18.2022

Brooks Pierce Receives Top Honors from *Chambers USA*: Nine Practice Areas, 20 Attorneys
Ranked Among the Best
Chambers USA, 06.01.2022

Brooks Pierce to Serve as Regulatory Counsel to Society of Broadcast Engineers
02.04.2022

72 Brooks Pierce Attorneys Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2022 Guide
The Best Lawyers in America®, 08.19.2021

Brooks Pierce Practice Areas, Attorneys Receive Top Honors from *Chambers USA*
Chambers USA, 05.20.2021

Speaking Engagements

Coe W. Ramsey to Appear on Music Business Panel
01.11.2018

Coe W. Ramsey to Present at 2017 International Bluegrass Music Association Business
Conference
09.19.2017

Coe W. Ramsey to Address Justice Bobbitt Inn of Court
01.04.2017

Coe Ramsey to Speak at DIY Musician Conference
09.29.2016

Coe W. Ramsey to Speak at 2016 International Bluegrass Music Association World of Bluegrass
Business Conference
09.26.2016

Publications

Music Performing Rights Organizations and the “Full-Work” vs. “Fractional” Licensing Dispute:
Government Seeks to Overturn Fractional Licensing Decision

05.24.2017

Got a Website or an App? Take Action to Protect Yourself!

11.03.2016

Coe Ramsey Answers "Legal Q&A" for DJs

04.30.2010

Use of Music in Broadcast Commercials and Promotions

09.30.2006