

CHARLES F. MORGAN

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Education:

University of Maryland School of Law, J.D.
Washington & Lee University, B.S. in Commerce

Admitted to Practice:

Court of Appeals of Maryland
Supreme Court of the United States
United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland

Experience:

Astrachan Gunst Thomas, P.C. (April 2007 – present)
Hodes, Pessin & Katz, P.A. (August 2001 – April 2007)
Sole Practitioner, Baltimore, Maryland (August 1981 – August 2001)
Maryland Division of Labor and Industry, Assistant Commissioner for Maryland
Occupational Safety and Health (May 1979 – August 1981)
Assistant Attorney General for the State of Maryland (October 1978 – May 1979)
Sole Practitioner, Baltimore, Maryland (April 1977 – October 1978)
Baltimore Legal Aid Bureau, Program Director (February 1971 – March 1977)

Practice Areas:

Intellectual property transactional practice involving licensing agreements for trademarks, copyrights, data, software and other intellectual property, technology transfer agreements, software and technology development agreements, consulting and employment agreements, website development and hosting agreements, confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements, website privacy policies and terms of use, co-branding agreements and rules for sweepstakes and contests.

Trademark and copyright practice involving analysis of trademark availability search reports, prosecution of trademark and copyright registration applications, counseling in trademark selection, strategy, use and protection, evaluation and negotiated resolution of trademark, copyright and domain name disputes.

Entertainment industry transactional practice counseling clients in the entertainment industry and negotiating and drafting agreements in the areas of music, book publishing, television, documentary filmmaking and motion pictures including recording artist agreements, distribution and production agreements, music licensing agreements, content and rights licensing agreements, music and book publishing agreements, a variety of content agreements, host and talent agreements, management and agency agreements, releases, permissions, right clearances, compliance audits, and endorsement agreements for professional athletes.

Trial and appellate litigation representing plaintiffs and defendants in general civil litigation, arbitration and settlement negotiations in the areas of contracts, employment, business torts, equine law, intellectual property, entertainment law and the Internet.

Professional Organizations:

Maryland State Bar Association

Intellectual Property Law Section, Maryland State Bar Association (Chair, 1996 – 1998; Secretary, 2007 – 2008)

American Intellectual Property Law Association

Arts, Entertainment, Media and Sports Law Section, District of Columbia Bar Association

Professional and Community Involvement:

Maryland Lawyers for the Arts, Board of Directors (1991 – present, President, 2000 – 2002)

Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service, Panel Attorney (1990 – present)

Baltimore Theatre Project, Board of Directors (1982 – present)

Maryland Million, Ltd., Board of Directors (2007 – present)

Maryland Horse Breeders Association, Member, Media, Membership and Bylaws Committees (2004 – present)

Judge, Client Counseling Competition, Sports and Entertainment Law, American Bar Association, Law Student Division, February 2005

Professional Achievements

AV® Peer Review Rating (AV is a registered certification mark of Reed Elsevier Properties, Inc. used in accordance with the Martindale-Hubbell certification procedures, standards and policies.)

Argued successfully before the Supreme Court of the United States in *Burrell v. McCray*, 426 U.S. 471, 96 S. Ct. 2640 (1976).

Named in *The Best Lawyers in America*, 2006 edition, for Entertainment and Intellectual Property Law, and 2007 – 2009 editions, for Entertainment Law.

Listed in Top 15 “Who’s Who in Intellectual Property Law,” Baltimore Business Journal (December 2000.)

Speaking Engagements

Maryland Horse Breeders Association, New Owners Seminar, “Legal Issues for the New Thoroughbred Owner,” August 2007.

Carroll County Public Schools Fine Arts Professional Inservice, “Intellectual Property and the Arts,” November 2006.

“Choice of Business Entity for the New Thoroughbred Horse Owner,” New Owner Seminar, Maryland Million Day, Laurel Race Course, November 2005.

“Entertainment Law: Negotiating the Deal Points in Music, Book Publishing and Television Agreements,” Maryland State Bar Association Intellectual Property Committee, February 2005.

“Trademark Law: Registering a Trademark,” MICPEL Advanced Trademark Law Seminar, February 2004.

“Trademark Law: Cease and Desist Letters,” MICPEL Advanced Trademark Law Seminar, February 2004.

Recent Articles:

“Music in Film.” May 2008.

“Publicity Rights Uncertainty Makes Maryland a Risky Place for Celebrities to Live or Die.” September, 2007.

Cases:

Ficep Corporation v. Ocean Machinery, Inc. et al., Civil Action No. 03-CV-00976-WDQ (D. Md. 2003) (Represented foreign corporation in trademark infringement suit against distributor).

John C. Moore, III, et al. v. William L.S. Landes, III, et al., Civil Action No. WMN – 03-CV-3523 (D. Md. 2003) (Defended claim arising from thoroughbred horse auction).

John H. Roberson v. Charles Warner, et al., Civil Action No. MJG-02-CV-3724 (D. Md. 2002) (Defense of copyright infringement claim).

Barry Louis Polisar v. Albritton Communications Company, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. PJM-01-CV-164 (D. Md. 2001) (Represented musical artist in copyright infringement claim arising from distribution of children’s television programs).

David Sheldon v. Bath & Body Works, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. 99-0010-A (E.D.Va. 1999) (Defended copyright infringement claims).

George E. Weiss, et al. v. Chesapeake Television, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. CCB-98-811 (D. Md. 1998) (Represented plaintiff in copyright infringement suit over video of plane crash).

Michael G. Rowe v. Olney Town Center Development Corporation, et al., Civil Action No. MJG-96-2472 (D.Md. 1996) (Represented television personality in right of publicity case).

Irene Smith, et al. v. Thomas Hoskins, et al., Civil Action No. 92-8-277 (Chancery Court of Grenada County, Mississippi) (Represented former manager of the late Mississippi John Hurt in music rights case).