

Gang, Tyre, Ramer, Brown & Passman

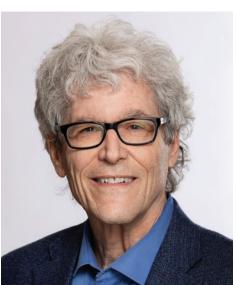


onald S. Passman first joined the entertainment firm Gang, Tyre, Ramer & Brown in the 1970s, shortly after graduating from Harvard Law School. Under mentor Payson Wolff, who clerked for Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren and represented Capitol Records, Warner Bros. Records and Bob Hope, Passman learned how to draft contracts for entertainment law from one of the best to ever do it. Passman made his bones during Mo Ostin's tenure at WBR, which would lean on the firm's music

department as an outside resource.

Passman is also known for writing what has long been considered the music-business bible, All You Need to Know About the Music Business, originally published in 1991, and now in its 11th edition, which covers the shift of power to the artists, the effect of AI on music and other new information.

The firm's music department is led by Passman



Donald S. Passman

and partners Gene Salomon and Ethan Schiffres. Superstars P!nk, Taylor Swift and Green Day have been longtime clients of the firm. Gang Tyre also represents Adele, Billie Eilish, Kendrick Lamar and Elton John. The firm recently represented Randy

32 HITS July 14, 2025





Ethan Schiffres

Gene Salomon

Newman in his catalog sale to Litmus.

Prior to joining the firm in December 2000, Salomon spent 13 years at Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp as partner and head of its music practice. Salomon is the managing partner of the firm, and he also serves as chair of the board of the Southern California Committee for the Olympic Games. Salomon has also been involved in numerous international endeavors, including representing Music Nation Copyrights in forming the most advanced CMO for the UAE and DGMC in a deal with Universal Music Group to bring Capitol Studios to Abu Dhabi (the first ever Capitol-branded studio outside Los Angeles).

Schiffres, who started his career at Sony Music and Red Light Management prior to attending Harvard Law School, recently celebrated his 14th anniversary at Gang Tyre. The Duke graduate serves as the chair of Gang Tyre's charity committee, where he oversees the philanthropic spending by the firm's

foundation. Schiffres represents Oscar/Grammy/Emmy-winning composer-writer-producer Ludwig Göransson, who scored and executive-produced Ryan Coogler's box office smash Sinners. He also works with Stevie Wonder, Phoebe Bridgers, FINNEAS and Anthony Ramos.

The firm's music team is rounded out by Leni Ackerman and David Agnew.

Ackerman plays a key role in the firm's collaborative approach to helping clients navigate the evolving music industry. As part of a team that is

structure deals that preserve long-term brand value and artistic integrity. Before joining the firm, Ackerman was an associate in Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher's Los Angeles office, where she represented media, entertainment and sports clients in a variety of business transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, capital raises and restructurings. She earned her law degree from the University of Texas at Austin. Agnew graduated from Georgetown University,

deeply committed to protecting artists' creative and business interests, she helps negotiate and

was a visiting scholar at Oxford University and received his law degree from Columbia University, where he served as editor-in-chief of the Columbia Journal of Law & the Arts. He began his career as an associate at Mitchell, Silberberg & Knupp. From there he became a lawyer and business affairs executive at Sony Music, before moving to Disney, where he spent over a dozen years, rising to become president of Walt Disney Records & Music Publishing and EVP of the Disney Music Group during the company's chart-topping years with High School Musical, Jonas Brothers, Miley Cyrus, Selena Gomez and Demi Lovato. Prior to joining the firm, Agnew worked as a consultant and lawyer representing clients in the entertainment, fine arts, AI, architecture and hospitality industries, launched Vinyl Moon, a vinyl record subscription service, and served a fivevear stint as President of Standard Vision, a leading architectural media and design firm.







David Agnew

HITS July 14, 2025