



Gregory O. Olaniran

Partner, through his Professional Corporation



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legal expertise

Representation of clients in copyright ownership and enforcement matters, and in other copyright and contractual matters, with special expertise in statutory license matters involving cable, satellite and other delivery systems. Advise and counsel clients regarding content creation and distribution of television series, movies, documentaries, reality shows and other programming transmitted by broadcast television, cable, satellite, and other platforms. Represents clients before the Copyright Office, the Copyright Royalty Judges, the Federal Communications Commission, and state and federal trial and appellate courts.

representative matters

- Obtained summary judgment based on an implied license defense for a healthcare industry client in a copyright infringement action involving software code (*WH Administrators v. Corepex Technologies, Inc.*, U.S. District for Eastern District for Virginia, September 2017)
- Represents collectively more than 100 producers and distributors of copyrighted television content in disputes regarding their share of hundreds of millions of dollars in royalties. Served as lead counsel in several multi-million dollar royalty disputes, including:
 - In re Distribution of Section 111 Cable Royalty Funds For 2004-2009, Docket No. 2012-6 CRB CD 2004-2009 (Phase I) and In re Distribution of Section 119 Satellite Royalty Funds For 1999-2009, Docket No. 2012-7 CRB SD 1999-2009 (Phase I). (his creative advocacy resulted in a historic settlement of a \$1.5 billion dispute among eight parties);
 - In re Distribution of Section 111 Cable Royalty Funds For 2000-03 (Phase I), Docket No. 2008-2 CRB CD 2000-2003;
 - In re Distribution of Section 111 Cable Royalty Funds For 1998-99 (Phase I), Docket No. 2001-8 CARP CD 98-99

practice areas

litigation
commercial litigation
intellectual property
entertainment & ip
litigation
copyright royalty board

admissions

Maryland
District of Columbia
U.S. District Court
District of Columbia
District of Maryland
U.S. Court of Appeals
District of Columbia Circuit

education

The George Washington University Law School, J.D.
Morgan State University, M.B.A.
Morgan State University, B.S.; Double major, Accounting and Business Administration, *cum laude*

other career experience

- Partner, Stinson Morrison Hecker LLP (2002-2010)

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Gregory O. Olaniran

- Served as lead counsel on appellate cases, including:
 - Independent Producers Group v. Librarian of Congress, No. 13-1274, et al., 2015 U.S. App. LEXIS 11166 (D.C. Cir. 2015);
 - Independent Producers Group v. Librarian of Congress & Register of Copyrights, 759 F.3d 100 (D.C. Cir. 2014);
 - Worldwide Subsidy Group v. Motion Picture Assn. of America, Inc., No. B236717, 2012 Cal. App. Unpub. LEXIS 5383 (Cal. Ct. App. July 20, 2014);
 - Hargrave v. TV One LLC, No. 2371 (Md. Ct. Spec. App. May 6, 2014) (cert. denied, 101 A.3d 1063 (Md. App. Ct. 2014));
 - Program Suppliers v. Librarian of Congress, 409 F.3d 395 (D.C. Cir. 2005)
- Co-counsel on the team that obtained summary judgment, in a copyright infringement action, in favor of the director and producers of one of the most successful major motion pictures of all time.
- Obtained summary dismissal of a copyright infringement action regarding a television program on behalf of a major cable network.
- Successfully defended a major cable network in an alleged defamation action.
- Represents clients in administrative litigation, including royalty distribution proceedings, rate-setting proceedings, notices of inquiry proceedings, rulemaking proceedings and settlement negotiations.
- Counsels copyright owners regarding pending legislation and on protecting owners' broadcast and distribution rights against possible dilution resulting from new content delivery technologies.
- Advises clients on licensing issues raised by ownership and/or transfer of copyrights and other copyright matters raised by the internet.
- Advises clients on general business matters, including negotiating various business agreements, including leases, technology licensing agreements, database management agreements, consulting agreements and service agreements.

honors & awards

- "Washington, D.C. Elite – Intellectual Property," *Legal 500* (2026)
- Black Leadership Award, *Profiles in Diversity Journal* (2024)
- Top Rated Intellectual Property Attorney in Washington, DC, *Super Lawyers* (2016-2021)

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professional, business and civic affiliations

- Member, Board of Trustees of Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical Center
- Member, American Bar Association Forum on the Entertainment & Sports Industries
- Member, District of Columbia Bar Association, Intellectual Property Law Section
- Member, Maryland State Bar Association, Intellectual Property Law Section
- Co-Chair, Diversity & Inclusion Committee, Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP
- Member, Governing Board, Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP
- Former Chair, Board of Trustees, The Horizon Foundation of Howard County
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA) (license inactive)

headlines

Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp Names Greg Olaniran Office Managing Partner of Washington, D.C. Office, Advancing a Commitment to Strategic Growth

Nationally Recognized IP Attorney and Firm Leader Appointed to Key Leadership Role
Business Wire, March 5, 2026

Theresa Bowman and Greg Olaniran Named to *Legal 500's* 2026 "Washington, D.C. Elite – Intellectual Property" Rankings
Legal 500, February 26, 2026

Greg Olaniran Named a Winner of *Profiles in Diversity Journal's* 2024 Black Leadership Award
Profiles in Diversity Journal, January 7, 2025

Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp Announces New Leadership
Business Wire, December 11, 2023

MSK Attorneys Named to the List of 2019 *Southern California Super Lawyers*
January 30, 2019

MSK Named as a 2019 "Diversity Leader" by *Profiles in Diversity Journal*
January 29, 2019

MSK Named as a 2018 "Diversity Leader" by *Profiles in Diversity Journal*
January 8, 2018



Gregory O. Olaniran

MSK Helps Lead Effort to Honor Slain Paralegal's Memory Through Heather Heyer Foundation
August 28, 2017

MSK Attorneys Named to the 2017 List of *Super Lawyers*
January 20, 2017

MSK Sponsors 2013 Minority Corporate Counsel Association Diversity Honors Gala
September 19, 2013

media mentions

Gregory O. Olaniran Spotlitged in the George Washington Association of Black Law Alumni Newsletter
August 2021

Gregory Olaniran Mentioned in *The Baltimore Sun Media* for Horizon Foundation
April 13, 2020

MSK Mentioned in *The American Lawyer* and *Law.com* for Their Efforts in Honoring the Heather Heyer Foundation
August 28, 2017

MSK Attorneys Mentioned in *Law360* for "Avatar" Suit
April 15, 2015

publications

A Framework for Implementing a Diversity and Inclusion Plan
Profiles in Diversity Journal, Winter Issue (2018-2019)

Want More From Your Outside Counsel?
ACC Docket, February 19, 2016

Case Summary for Perfect 10 v. Giganews (Maryland State Bar Association Annual IP Update)
June 2015

events & speaking engagements

Television Under the Microscope: Where the Industry Is Now, How It Got Here, and What the Future of Television Will Look Like

BESLA 44th Annual Conference
November 14, 2024

Why DEI Matters for Law Firms: Supporting Client's Core Values and Meeting Legal Industry Imperatives
October 24, 2024

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Playing for Keeps: The State of DEI and the Implications of Recent Decisions and Policies
National Bar Association Corporate Counsel Leadership Summit
July 15, 2024

2024 Gateway To Success Conference
March 15, 2024

A Conversation on Diversity and Inclusion in Copyright
December 6, 2021

A Long Time Coming: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Leadership in Entertainment & Sports and Recent
Developments
BESLA's 41st Annual Conference
November 6, 2021

The Future of Television, Film and The Internet & The Internet of Things
September 12, 2018

The Nuts and Bolts of Digital Media Deal Making: How to Structure and Negotiate Digital Media and Streaming
Agreements
October 27, 2017

Licensing and Copyright Review
September 16, 2015

Global Intelligence: Models of Inclusion & Keys to Uncovering Talent
April 2014

Brand Protection In An Era of Social Media
March 2014

IP for Creative Upstarts
November 9, 2012

Practical or Principled Approach to the Digital Revolution: What to do when the law is on your side but market
forces are not?
October 6, 2012

The Whistleblower, Minority Corporate Counsel Association (MCCA) 8th Annual General Counsel Invitational and
Diversity Leadership Summit
April 2011