



Steven S. Sidman

OF COUNSEL

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Overview

Steve Sidman has more than two decades of experience in the business of pop culture. He represents creative talent and entrepreneurial ventures, from Michelin-starred chefs and restaurateurs to multiplatinum-selling recording artists, songwriters, producers and mixers, to film and TV producers and on-screen talent.

With deep experience in industry-specific contract and intellectual property law, he provides legal counsel on a wide range of legal and business issues.

In his nationally recognized niche practice representing renowned restaurateurs and "celebrity chefs," Steve negotiates cookbook deals, product endorsements, and personal appearance agreements. He oversees their commercial real estate transactions and employment and investor issues — along with breakthrough branding opportunities, including partnerships with hotels, airlines, airports, resorts, and arenas. He has represented the world-renowned, multiple Michelin-starred restaurateurs, Nick Kokonas and chef Grant Achatz; Atlanta-based James Beard Award winners, chefs Linton Hopkins and Steven Satterfield; "Top Chef All-Stars" winner, TV host, and noted restaurateur, chef Richard Blais; Chicago-based, Michelin-starred husband and wife team, chefs John and Karen Urie Shields; "Chopped" winner and beloved Atlanta icon, chef Suzanne Vizethann; beloved Atlanta restaurateur and former "Top Chef Masters" competitor, chef Hector Santiago; revered Atlanta chef-entrepreneur and former "Iron Chef America" contestant, chef Todd Richards; Atlanta-based award-winning cookbook author and culinarian, chef Asha Gomez; celebrated Nashville-based chef, Matt Bolus; the esteemed chef James Kent of New York City; and New Orleans-based James Beard Award-winning chef-restaurateur, Alon Shaya.

Steve also represents well-known recording artists, singers, songwriters, producers, independent record labels, production companies, music publishers, streaming services, and authors. He counsels entrepreneurial ventures at every stage of development — from negotiating a groundbreaking deal between a young performing duo and an iconic American consumer goods brand, to overseeing the

sale of one of the world's most significant catalogues of avant-garde music, to representing producers and on-screen talent in both scripted and nonscripted network television series, as well as in feature-length motion pictures and documentary film deals. He is knowledgeable in the digital space as well, guiding clients through the complexities of online streaming and internet sales.

All Insights

07.01.2019 S1:E11 - Not All Fun and Games: Employment Issues in the Esports and Gaming Industry

04.26.2019 Insight: A Moral Compass - A Guide to Celebrity-Focused Morals Clauses

All News

12.12.2019 Carlton Fields Entertainment Attorney Steven S. Sidman Named to Georgia Trend Magazine's 2019 Legal Elite

10.08.2019 Whose Dish Is It Anyway? Do Chefs Have Legal Rights to Restaurant Recipes?

08.01.2019 Brand/Celebrity Licensing Partnership Guide

04.26.2019 Steven Sidman Authors Article in Bloomberg Law on Celebrity-Focused Morals Causes

02.07.2019 Georgia Super Lawyers Honors Carlton Fields Attorneys on 2019 Lists

12.01.2018 Carlton Fields Attorney Steven S. Sidman Named to Georgia Trend Magazine's 2018 "Legal Elite"

11.01.2018 Branding Strategies for the Tastiest Trademarks

02.22.2018 Georgia Super Lawyers Features Carlton Fields Attorney Steven S. Sidman

12.14.2017 Steve Sidman Featured on The Dana Barrett Show

10.27.2017 Lawyers Explain What The Restaurant Industry Needs To Do To Protect Women

08.28.2017 Celebrity Chefs Land Sidman on Carlton Fields' Front Burners

Recognition

- AV Rated by Martindale-Hubbell (2014–2020)
- Georgia Super Lawyers, Entertainment Law, *Super Lawyers Magazine* (2011–2020)
- Georgia Legal Elite, Entertainment Law, *Georgia Trend Magazine* (2012, 2015–2019)
- Top 100 Georgia Super Lawyers, *Super Lawyers Magazine* (2015–2016)
- *The Best Lawyers in America*, Entertainment Law (2010)
- Georgia Rising Stars, *Super Lawyers Magazine* (2007, 2009)

Professional & Community Involvement

- American Bar Association
 - Forum on the Entertainment and Sports Industries
 - Section of Intellectual Property Law
 - Business Law Section
- National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences
- James Beard Foundation
- Southern Foodways Alliance
- State Bar of Georgia

Credentials

EDUCATION

- Emory University School of Law (J.D., 1997)
- Colgate University (B.A., cum laude, 1992)

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Georgia

Background

- Founder and Managing Member, The Sidman Law Firm LLC (2010–2017)
- Shareholder, Global Entertainment Group, Greenberg Traurig LLP (2006–2010)
- Associate and Senior Associate, Global Entertainment Group, Greenberg Traurig LLP (1998–2006)
- Associate, Katz, Smith & Cohen (1997–1998)

- Summer Associate, Smith & Cohen (1994–1997)
- Paralegal, Beldock Levine & Hoffman LLP (1993–1994)

Areas of Focus

PRACTICES

- Business Transactions
- Esports and Electronic Gaming
- Hospitality
- Intellectual Property
- Labor & Employment
- Media, Entertainment, Music & Sports

INDUSTRIES

- Real Estate
- Technology & Telecommunications