



Ronald S. Bienstock

Partner

rbienstock@foxrothschild.com



Morristown, NJ

Tel: 973.326.7129

Fax: 973.992.9125

Ron provides strategic legal advice that helps musicians and musical instrument manufacturers achieve their business goals and protect and exploit their intellectual property on a worldwide basis.

A leader in the industry with nearly four decades of experience, Ron structures transactions and commercial agreements to provide optimal returns for his clients. If a formal dispute arises, he guides them through litigation involving a full range of licensing, patent, trademark and copyright infringement issues. Over his career, he has been involved in multiple landmark music industry and intellectual property cases.

Ron works with music instrument manufacturers, songwriters, producers, recording artists, musicians, authors and others in the entertainment industry, helping to protect their ability to profit from their craft and prevent others from taking advantage of their intellectual property.

Some of Ron's clients have been with him for four decades, many artists for their entire careers. Ron was among the first music attorneys to create intraband agreements and bifurcated major label and publishing agreements.

Services

- Entertainment & Sports Law
- Intellectual Property
- Corporate

Before Fox Rothschild

Ron joined us from a regional law firm. He previously ran his own boutique entertainment firm for 30 years.

Beyond Fox Rothschild

Ron has performed extensively with various artists as both recording and performing musician. He co-founded the band "The Suits," which has appeared on Conan O'Brien and was the house band for a show on CNBC. Ron records and performs with former "Renaissance" guitarist, Ryche Chlanda in "Ryche Chlanda and Flying Dreams." They have released two LPs on Sony/The Orchard/TransGlobal Records. Ron continues to regularly perform with many acts.

Ron is an adjunct professor at Montclair State University and has taught at New York University. He has guest lectured for the music business programs at Ithaca College, USC Thornton School of Music, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Berkeley

College of Music and many other schools, as well as at organization events and trade shows, including NAMM. Ron has also presented multiple CLE courses, including at South by Southwest, and for the New Jersey State Bar Association, New York State Bar Association, Alaska Bar Association, Stafford, Lawline and many others.

Bar Admissions

- New Jersey
- New York

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Central District of California
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Indiana
- U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida
- U.S. District Court, District of Utah

Education

- California Western School of Law (J.D.)
- Hobart and William Smith Colleges (B.A.)

Memberships

- National Association of Recording Arts and Sciences
- New York State Bar Association
- New Jersey State Bar Association
 - Chair, Entertainment, Arts and Sports Law Section
- Washington State Bar Association

Honors & Awards

- **Selected to the "Best Lawyers in America" list for Litigation - Intellectual Property in New Jersey (2026).** *This award is conferred by Best Lawyers. A description of the selection methodology is [available here](#). No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.*
- **Chosen as New Jersey Intellectual Property Lawyer of the Year by the New Jersey Law Journal (2024).** *This award is conferred by Best Lawyers. A description of the selection methodology is [available here](#). No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.*

Representative Matters

- Represented multiple guitar manufacturers in one of the largest U.S. trademark oppositions to an applicant's registration for three guitar body shapes. Successfully opposed the applicant's registrations by proving the shapes were not distinctive, but generic. The precedential TTAB decision was not appealed (Trademark Trial and Appeals Board, USPTO).
- Negotiated a substantial favorable settlement for client in federal trademark infringement case after succeeding in having the opponent's declaratory judgment case transferred from California to New York on grounds that the opponent made an improper anticipatory filing. (U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York)
- Obtained favorable settlement for a musical instrument manufacturer in a patent and trademark infringement case against an audio equipment manufacturer (U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey).

- Obtained dismissal for lack of personal jurisdiction, improper venue and insufficient service of process for clients engaged in a trademark ownership dispute related to a testamentary instrument. (U.S. District Court, Western District of North Carolina.)
- Secured monetary damages and attorneys' fees for founding band member and shareholder involved in a precedential lawsuit against the other band members and corporate entity for breach of shareholder agreement and failure to distribute profits. (New Jersey Superior Court)
- Negotiated favorable settlement for U.S. musical instrument distributor after defeating a motion to dismiss in a precedential lawsuit against a foreign musical instrument manufacturer for breach of distribution contract. (U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida)
- Successfully defended toy manufacturer in product configuration trademark infringement lawsuit by prominent doll manufacturer. (U.S. District Court, Central District of California)
- Obtained dismissal for studio, producer and engineer in landmark music sampling case. (U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York)
- Secured favorable settlement following mediation for plaintiff in case involving unauthorized use of a music instrument manufacturer's trademarks on clothing. (U.S. District Court, Central District of California)
- Obtained favorable settlement for defendants in copyright infringement lawsuit filed by international entertainment conglomerate. (U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York)
- Successfully fought to recover and secure federal trademark registration for an iconic 1950's rock band. (Trademark Trial and Appeals Board, USPTO).
- Defended foreign custom guitar parts builder in trademark litigation against large instrument manufacturer. (U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York)
- Successfully defended small guitar manufacturer against an international instrument company in a trademark dispute. (U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York)
- Won full reversal and remand for a smaller U.S. instrument manufacturer against a leading instrument manufacturer. (U.S. Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit)
- Secured favorable settlement for trademark infringement and counterfeiting for a consumer products plaintiff. (U.S. District Court, District of Utah).

**Results may vary depending on your particular facts and legal circumstances.*