

# STREET & SMITH'S SportsBusiness JOURNAL®

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## POWER PLAYERS OUTSIDE COUNSEL

Proskauer

**JOE LECCESE**  
**BOB BATTERMAN**  
**BRAD RUSKIN**  
**JON ORAM**

Pick up any edition of SportsBusiness Journal, and odds are good you'll discover Proskauer's sports law group behind the headlines. It's largely because of the firm's long history as a leader in sports law and its talented lineage of attorneys, from the vaunted George Gallanz to David Stern to Gary Bettman. Now led by Leccese, the firm's chairman, and Howard Ganz, the group represents every major sports league and a long list of teams, financiers and other associations in a diverse range of matters.

The practice advised the NBA in the Donald Sterling controversy and ensuing sale to Steve Ballmer, and has repped MLS in 14 expansions since 2004.

Batterman, a longtime partner, leads the labor/employment division and has been at the table in collective-bargaining talks since the earliest days.



Joe Leccese (left),  
Brad Ruskin, Bob  
Batterman and  
Jon Oram.

PROSKAUER

Under litigation division head Ruskin, Proskauer has won antitrust decisions for the ATP, MLB and others.

Most recently, Oram, a partner, has been working to bring the Olympics back to the United States, advising the LA 2024 bid committee.

The firm has a deep bench and is constantly grooming talented lawyers, and

Proskauer alums fill some of the top positions in sports, ensuring a steady pipeline of legal work.

In taking the lead from Ganz, Batterman and Michael Cardozo, the affable and charismatic Leccese has seemingly strengthened the firm's hold on the space through his skill and strong relationships at the highest levels.