



Contact

**Sandra A. Crawshaw-Sparks**

**Partner**

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Sandra A. Crawshaw-Sparks is a partner in the Litigation Department. Sandy handles a wide variety of litigation and transactional matters in the entertainment industry, with a special focus on music. She maintains a bi-coastal practice and has represented many clients in connection with matters involving recording, publishing, licensing and management contracts, copyrights, trademark rights, unfair competition claims, and the rights of privacy and publicity.

Sandy typically handles copyright infringement, trademark infringement, enforcement of personal services contracts, accounting and royalty disputes, and matters involving the rights of privacy and publicity.

As a regular and substantial part of her practice, Sandy counsels clients in connection with transactions, negotiates pre-litigation resolutions of accounting and royalty disputes, negotiates licensing arrangements, and handles applications for court approval of personal services contracts with minors.

Sandy is ranked by *Chambers USA* having been described by clients as “brilliant at resolving key points.” She is also the Deputy National Legal Counsel to the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences, Inc. (the GRAMMY® Award organization).

Sandy’s clients have included: Amerie; Fiona Apple; Hall & Oates; Matisyahu; Meat Loaf; Madonna; Lady Gaga; The Police; Debbie Gibson; Sally Hershberger; Judd

Hirsch; Britney Spears; Shania Twain; the recording group "Living Colour"; Trent Reznor (of "Nine Inch Nails"); Just Blaze; Sting; Luther Vandross; and the recording group "U2." Sandy has also represented numerous entertainment industry leaders, including: Chris Blackwell; Jimmy Iovine; and Russell Simmons. The music industry companies she has represented include: American Recordings; BMG Music Publishing (including FirstCom music and Zomba Music Publishing); Cash Money Records; Def Jam Recordings; EMI-Capitol Music Group (including Capitol Records, EMI Records, SBK Records, and Virgin Records); EMI Music Publishing; Gee Street Records; IslandLife; the Island Trading Company; JB Music Publishing; Jellybean Recordings Inc.; the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences; Palm Pictures; Maverick Recordings; Prime Wave Music Publishing; Rykodisc, Inc.; Sony BMG Music Entertainment Group (including Arista Records, J Records, Jive Records, Provident Music Group, RCA Records, Zomba Recording Corp., and Verity Records); Universal Music Group (including Interscope Records; Geffen Records; GRP Records; MCA Music Publishing; MCA Records; Island Pictures; Island Music; Island Records; Mercury Records; Motown Records, and PolyGram Records); Vagrant Records; Warner Bros. Records; Warner/Chappell Music; and Wind-Up Records.

[Close](#)

#### Practices

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Privacy & Cybersecurity, Copyright, False Advertising & Trademark, Intellectual Property

#### Industries

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Entertainment, Technology, Media & Telecommunications

#### Education

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Fordham University School of Law, J.D., 1988

*cum laude*

Drew University, B.A., 1985

*cum laude*

#### Admissions & Qualifications

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California

New York

New Jersey

District of Columbia (Inactive)

#### [Court Admissions](#)

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U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. District Court, District of Columbia

U.S. District Court, New Jersey

U.S. District Court, New York, Eastern District

U.S. District Court, New York, Southern District

U.S. District Court, California, Central District

#### [Awards & Recognition](#)

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Chambers USA: New York: Media & Entertainment: Copyright & Contract Disputes  
2008-2019

Chambers USA: California: Media & Entertainment: Litigation 2019

Euromoney Americas Women in Business Law Awards 2015, 2018: Media and  
Entertainment

Euromoney Americas Women in Business Law Awards 2016: Copyright

Daily Journal, Top Women Lawyers 2014, 2017-2019

Benchmark Litigation, Top 250 Women in Litigation 2017-2020

Benchmark Litigation, Litigation Stars 2018-2019

New York Super Lawyers: Top Women Attorneys in New York Metro 2016

New York Super Lawyers 2011-2019

The Legal 500 United States: Intellectual Property: Copyright 2014-2019

The Legal 500 United States: Trademarks Litigation 2016-2019

The Legal 500 United States: Media & Entertainment 2017-2018

The Legal 500 United States: MT & T: Media & Entertainment: Transactional 2019

The Legal 500 United States: MT & T: Media & Entertainment: Litigation 2019

The Legal 500 United States: MT & T: Film, Music & Television: Advice to  
Corporates 2009

The Legal 500 United States: MT & T: Film, Music & Television: Advice to Talent  
2009

"Top 50 Women," New York Metro Super Lawyers, 2019

Best Lawyers in America Lawyer of the Year 2020