

SCOTT C. FRIEDMAN

Scott Friedman is a partner with Cinnamon Mueller. He has over fifteen years experience in communications and copyright law with a primary focus on the cable, broadband, and telecommunications industries.

Practice Overview

Scott works with cable, broadband, and telecom companies in all facets of their businesses. In particular, he helps cable, broadband, and telecom companies evaluate the impact and applicability of Federal and State laws, regulations, and legislation within their respective industries. Scott also assists clients on business matters, including retransmission consent and satellite programming contracts, subpoena compliance, web hosting and technical service agreements, cable system acquisitions, litigation, state and local franchising, pole attachments, regulatory compliance, Federal Trade Commission rules, and debt collection issues.

Scott also focuses on advising and representing the American Cable Association, the leading national trade association for small and medium-sized video and broadband companies. He has successfully represented the trade association in numerous FCC rulemakings and in responding to proposed mergers and acquisitions, gaining regulatory relief for smaller video distributors in the areas of broadband Internet, must carry and retransmission consent, access to programming, basic tier encryption, disabilities access compliance, set-top boxes, outage reporting and regulatory fees. Scott also heads up the CM team responsible for preparing bi-weekly regulatory updates for Association members.

Scott is admitted to practice law in Wisconsin and Illinois.

Personal History

Scott joined Cinnamon Mueller in 2006 after graduating from the University of Wisconsin Law School. Scott grew up in the cable industry – both his father and grandfather operated small cable systems at various times during his adolescence. Feeling the urge to follow in his father's and grandfather's footsteps, Scott began working for Cinnamon Mueller during law school and even coordinated with ACA president Matt Polka to study retransmission consent issues in 2004.

Prior to joining Cinnamon Mueller, Scott took part in the University of Wisconsin Law School's prosecution project. He worked in the Winnebago County District Attorney's Office, and conducted jury trials, preliminary hearings, plea negotiations, and bail hearings, drafted criminal complaints and court briefs, and negotiated juvenile matters. To this day, Scott credits much of his speaking and negotiating abilities to the on-your-feet courtroom experience he gained participating in this project.

Outside of the office, Scott enjoys playing tennis and coaching his son's soccer and hockey teams. Scott also currently serves as an elected trustee in the Village of Shorewood Hills, Wisconsin. An avid weather fanatic, he is a national weather service trained severe weather spotter.

Judicial Clerkships

Judge Daniel Moeser, Dane County Circuit Court Branch 11, Wisconsin (2005).

Education

University of Wisconsin Law School, Madison, WI – J.D. (2006)

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI – B.A. History, B.A. Political Science (2003)

Events/Presentations/Speaking Engagements

Regulatory Planning for the New Year, ACA Connects – America's Communications Association (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022)

Beyond the Compulsory License: Why You Must Have Agreements in Place to Clear Music and Programming Copyrights, ACA Connects – America's Communications Association (2019)

Accessible On-Screen Guides and Menus: What You Need to Know About Your Upcoming Obligations to Blind and Visually Impaired Customers, Iowa Communications Alliance (2018)

2018 Legal Conference: Federal Broadband Update, Tennessee Valley Public Power Association (2018)

Life in the Fast Lane: The Impact of Changes in the Broadcast Industry on Cable Operators, National Cable Television Cooperative (2017)

Retransmission Consent Part II: Itemizing Retrans Fees and Other Customer Billing Issues, American Cable Association (2017)

Retransmission Consent: Know Your Rights and Responsibilities, Wisconsin State Telecommunications Association (2017)

Data: Who Owns It, How to Monetize It, Minnesota Telecom Alliance (2017)

Digital Millennium Copyright Act – Primer and Update, American Cable Association (2017)

Retransmission Consent Part I: Know Your Rights and Responsibilities, American Cable Association (2017)

Public Inspection File – What You Need to Know, National Cable Television Cooperative (2016)

Public Inspection File – What You Need to Know, American Cable Association (2016)

Digital Millennium Copyright Act and Subpoena Compliance, American Cable Association (2014)

EAS CAP Webinar, Iowa Telecommunications Association (2012)

Publications

Co-Author, "Retrans Redux: Lessons for Doing Battle with Broadcasters," Independent Cable News (2014)

Co-Author, "The Need for Obtaining Retransmission Consent, Broadcasters Step Up FCC Action," Rural Telecom Magazine (2012)

Co-Author, "Next-Generation EAS: The Emergency Alert System, Common Alerting Protocol, and National Test – Oh My!" Independent Cable News (2011)

Professional Affiliations

Illinois Bar Association

Wisconsin Bar Association

Federal Communications Bar Association