

In The News

Akerman Partners Named 2025 *Lawdragon* 500 Leading Global Entertainment, Sports & Media Lawyers

March 20, 2025

Kanika Corley, Donald David, Caroline Mankey, LaKeisha Marsh, and Kourtney Mulcahy have been named among the 2025 *Lawdragon* 500 Leading Global Entertainment, Sports & Media Lawyers, which honors those who have achieved distinction “advising the individuals and entities who shape what we view, read and admire.” The lawyers were selected through journalistic reporting, nominations, and vetting with peers and experts in sports and entertainment law.

Kanika, Sports and Entertainment Sector Team Leader, focuses her practice on complex commercial and intellectual property litigation with an emphasis on the sports, entertainment, and media industries. She has worked with and provided legal assistance for a wide array of clients, including print, digital, and broadcast media companies; advertising companies; footwear and apparel designers and manufacturers; and institutions and entities in professional sports and entertainment, among others.

Donald is a litigation partner with experience in real estate, entertainment, estates, close corporations and partnerships, intellectual property, and financing disputes. His clients include the estate of an internationally known rap artist (as well as other entertainers), the widow of the owner of one of the

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Kanika D. Corley
Donald N. David
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nation's premier horse stables, numerous nationally known real estate developers, REITs, authors, banks, telecommunications companies, and others.

Caroline is an intellectual property partner and a seasoned trial lawyer representing diverse clients in the entertainment, arts, fashion, retail, and technology sectors, including motion picture studios and production companies, major media companies, film libraries, actors, comedians, television personalities, musicians, artists, jewelry designers, manufacturers, architects, and market research firms, in disputes involving copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets, defamation, licensing and other contract rights, rights of publicity, business interference, and partnership disputes.

LaKeisha, who serves as chair of both the Government Affairs and Public Policy Practice Group and the Higher Education and Collegiate Athletics Practice, has a comprehensive legal background serving the higher education sector, including as an NCAA staff member. She represents colleges, universities, and related institutions on federal and state regulatory compliance, accreditation, state licensure, institutional governance, and collegiate sports and NCAA compliance-related matters. She has structured and executed a broad range of transactional, restructuring, finance, and corporate governance matters for educational institutions.

Kourtney, an intellectual property partner, focuses her practice on IP counseling and managing domestic and international trademark portfolios. She regularly implements cost-effective trademark clearance, procurement, and protection strategies for her clients. Kourtney has experience in all areas of trademark law, including: domain name issues, right of publicity, social media, digital and print advertising, and marketing. She has a diverse client base, including clients in the fashion, entertainment, sports, and beverage industries and counsels them

on how to protect their intellectual property
domestically and internationally.