



**BOB DONNELLY**

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For over 40 years, Bob Donnelly has been specializing in the representation of music industry clients. His first job was as in-house counsel for Leber-Krebs, which launched the careers of Aerosmith, AC/DC, Def Leppard and many other well-known recording artists. He then spent 30 years as a music lawyer until he merged his solo practice with the Lommen Abdo law firm in 2007.

Donnelly has had his share of interesting gigs over the years. He was part of the legal team that won a substantial judgment in unpaid royalties for his client **Ronnie Spector**. Bob Donnelly also figured prominently in getting the Congress to repeal the anti-artist "Works-for-Hire" bill. Former New York State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer gave Donnelly much of the credit for the settlement of the so-called "suspense accounts" case that resulted in the payment to artists of \$55 million dollars in back-due royalties. Bob Donnelly was part of the team that presented the legendary Central Park free concert series that included artists such as **James Taylor, Diana Ross** and **Simon & Garfunkel**. Bob was also one of the very first lawyers to do a superstar endorsement deal when he helped to put **Blondie's Deborah Harry** into a pair of Murjani jeans.

Bob Donnelly is an experienced entertainment law arbitrator and a trained mediator. His law practice has covered the full gamut of the entertainment services. He has represented an eclectic group of artists and managers of artists who have collectively sold more than a quarter of a billion albums. Several of Bob's clients have been inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Jazz Hall of Fame. Others have won a Pulitzer Prize and two McArthur Foundation "Genius" grants.

In 2005, Bob Donnelly formed a music publishing administration company with composer Dan Coleman called Modern Works Music. Today Modern Works is the 35<sup>th</sup> largest music publisher in the U.S. and is responsible for a catalog of thousands of important compositions including such evergreens as Erroll Garner's "Misty," Bootsy Collins' "Flashlight," Julie Gold's "From A Distance" (made famous by Bette Midler and Nanci Griffith), Herbie Hancock's "Rockit" (co-written by Michael Beinhorn and Bill Laswell), Skee-Lo's mega-hit "I Wish," and Jonathan Edward's classic protest song "Sunshine."

Bob enjoys giving guest lectures on entertainment law at colleges, law schools and music industry conferences like SXSW and CMJ. He is also a frequent contributor to many legal and music industry trade magazines. He has served as a Justice of the Peace in his home county of Westchester, New York. He has received special recognition awards from the Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts and from St. John's Law School Entertainment Law Society. Donnelly has also been awarded 40 platinum albums. Irish America magazine has named him on multiple occasions as one of the 100 most distinguished lawyers in the United States of Irish American descent. Bob Donnelly is also regularly included on the lists of New York Super Lawyers and "America's Best Lawyers."