

## **Our Attorneys**

**JAY TAYLOR**

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Jay Taylor is the Managing Partner of Taylor Louis LLP. He specializes in business and finance transactions, including structured finance and derivatives, broker-dealer transactions, project finance and complex business deals and structures. His overall expertise is reducing financial risk across a variety of complex transactions and business arrangements. He has approximately 20 years of experience reviewing, drafting, and negotiating structured trading deals and derivatives and project finance documentation. His expertise includes corporate and financial deals and security arrangements for all transaction types. He advises start-up enterprises and middle-market participants in basic and complex financial documentation and risk management issues.

Mr. Taylor has represented a global client base which includes some of the world's largest corporations, energy companies, hedge funds and investment banks. His knowledge of financial transactions and products includes credit, equity, commodity, fixed income, currency and futures and options. He understands the actual and theoretical framework of financial risk management. Mr. Taylor has represented clients in a variety of domestic and international deals in his role as Special Counsel for one of the world's largest law firms, where he served as the firm's key point person for training and instruction in the area of financial derivatives and transactional matters. He has formed and advised several start-up enterprises, managed a multi-national transactional risk management project for a global international bank, led a legal risk assessment team for one of the world's largest hedge funds and served as lead commodities lawyer in the U.S. for a top global investment bank. His expertise extends to the new Dodd-Frank Financial Reform legislation as it relates to new regulations for derivatives trading.

Mr. Taylor has worked on the broker-dealer side for large investment banks such as Barclays Capital, Deutsche Bank, BNP Paribas and Bear Stearns and, alternatively, has been lead deal counsel to some of the world's largest corporate entities, energy companies and hedge funds, while employed at several top law firms. His financial perspective was broadened early on by serving as a legal clerk at federal banking agencies such as the FDIC, RTC and OTS. He also helped to investigate high profile financial crimes and trading irregularities as a junior litigator at an international law firm.

Understanding the complex and interrelated nature of financial risk management is vital in today's global economic climate where clients now "require" expert scrutiny of every business and financial deal. Mr. Taylor's experience provides him with a very unique client protection perspective. He now brings his vast financial expertise to the lean, responsive and cost efficient

firm, Taylor Louis LLP.

Mr. Taylor is a 1991 graduate of Howard University in Washington D.C., with a B.A. in Political Science and minor in Economics. He earned his Juris Doctorate from The Catholic University of America's Columbus School of law in 1994. He is a former U.S. Naval Reserve airman and is admitted to practice law in the courts of the State of New York

## **BRIAN ROBINSON**

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Brian Robinson, a Partner at Taylor Louis LLP, handles transactional and litigation matters with a unique approach to client problem-solving based on multi-directional analysis and negotiated settlements to avoid protracted conflict. Mr. Robinson applies this approach to both individual and business clients, utilizing his legal training and expertise to assist clients in the following areas: civil, commercial, and landlord/tenant litigation, negotiated contract settlements, employment issues, consumer credit disputes, business transactions, contract formation, lease negotiations, corporate formation (profit and not-for-profit), asset purchases and sales, and strategic partnerships and joint ventures.

Mr. Robinson has represented: developers in real estate litigation; real property managers in contract matters and general litigation; restaurant owners seeking capital infusions through strategic alliances; business owners in commercial real estate leasing disputes; businesses in tort defense matters; film producers; not-for-profit entities seeking federal tax exempt status; individuals and corporations pursuing or defending breach of contract claims; privately held corporations engaged in minority shareholder disputes; and entrepreneurs seeking to avoid litigation through structured contracts and agreements.

Attorney Robinson is admitted to practice law in all of the courts within the New York State judicial system. He is also admitted to practice law before the U.S. Federal Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, which are based in New York City and Brooklyn, respectively. He is a 1995 graduate of New York University (B.A. in International Relations, with honors); and a 2001 graduate of Fordham University School of Law.

Mr. Robinson was previously a principal in his own practice and Of Counsel to Colon & Peguero, LLP. Mr. Robinson is a native of Queens, New York. Mr. Robinson also has

experience serving as a board member to New York not-for-profit corporations.

**SEAN JOELL JOHNSON**

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Sean Joell Johnson, Of Counsel at Taylor Louis LLP, is an accomplished attorney with significant transactional experience including 10+ years as in-house counsel in extremely fast-paced entertainment organizations (MTV Networks, BET Networks) managing business and legal matters for the creation, distribution and marketing of intellectual property across all media including television, feature film, home entertainment and digital. He places a high premium on providing business and legal support to multi-media talent, creative, marketing and sales executives focusing on:

- Intellectual Property (copyright & trademark law),
- Negotiating and Structuring Strategic Alliances,
- Contract Drafting, Review and Analysis
- Talent Acquisition Agreements
- Development and Video Production Agreements
- First Amendment (rights of privacy, rights of publicity, defamation)
- Licensing (television, film, digital & photography), and
- Rights management.

As Vice President of Business and legal Affairs for MTV Networks Sean drafted and negotiated cost effective agreements relating to MTV Programming (i.e. dayparts, award shows, specials, news and sports) including talent, production, sponsorship, program acquisition and development agreements. He also conducted pre-broadcast review on series and specials. His accomplishments included:

- Negotiating contracts for MTV hits such as The Osbournes, Punk'd and Pimp My Ride and overseeing all legal and business affairs for the MTV Video Music Awards and MTV Movie Awards for five (5) years.
- Serving as lead attorney for MTV 'event' programming including the NFL Halftime Show, Tibetan Freedom Concert, Woodstock '99, EMP Museum Concert, and the Republican/Democratic National Conventions as well as negotiating overall programming agreements with professional sports leagues including NFL Properties, NBA Entertainment and Major League Baseball.
- Supervising and overseeing all day-to-day legal production work for the MTV and MTV2 television programming services for five (5) years including venue and location

agreements, talent releases, and labor and union issues.

Prior to MTV Networks, Sean was employed as Associate General Counsel for Black Entertainment Television, Inc. At BET, Sean handled all legal production work for several BET programs including programs developed by BET's music programming department. His role also included making fair use determinations.

Sean also has a considerable amount of experience in television and film production and development. He is an Award winning producer who has a long list of credits to his name for various networks (BET, VH1, Centric, BET J, MTV, VH1 Tempo). His credits include the NAACP nominated series Leading Women for BET, the first original series for VH1 and BET's Centric network (Model City), and the network premiere special for Earvin 'Magic' Johnson's ASPIRE Network. He also served as a member of founding team for MTV Network's 'VH1 Tempo,' and lead the rebranding and oversaw Primetime Programming for BET's 'BET J' network. His production clients include The Huffington Post, The Ford Foundation and Red Bull Media House.

Sean is a graduate of the George Washington Law School where he serves as Student Bar Association President and Student Director of the Small Business Clinic. He received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (The Entrepreneur Program) from the University of Southern California where he received the Senior Recognition Award and was a recipient of 7 academic scholarships.