
A highly energetic, entrepreneurial and client-centered attorney firm focused on extra ordinary client results and the execution of long-term client goals. We are valued for our strong legal and business skill sets, personal, client oriented style, the ability to lead a diverse range of successful legal and business projects, and our use of creative, efficient and technology-based process solutions.

CORE COMPETENCIES:

- ☺ *Superior Client Relations*
- ☺ *Team Building and Leadership*
- ☺ *Innovative Client and Business Solutions*
- ☺ *Efficiency Through Technology and Creative Strategies*

OUR MISSION: Our primary goal is to combine superior legal services with first class client relations utilizing entrepreneurial and creative methods and processes that meet the needs of today's businesses and economic climate. We strive to allow our clients the benefits of a full-service law firm while maintaining the intimacy, personal attention, and fee structure of a small firm through strategic "of counsel" relationships with a larger law firm, which allows our clients access to the larger firm's litigation and transactional practice group's resources. Above all, we work tirelessly to provide these services at reasonable fees.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1998 – Present: The Law Office of Leon Bass:

- ☺ Founded and cultivated successful boutique law firm from the ground up. Developed progressive marketing strategies and business management processes. Developed a loyal client base.
- ☺ Practice concentration in transactional and litigation areas of trademark and copyright law, general business law, entertainment law, computer and internet law, real estate law, and consumer law.

2004 - 2008: Of Counsel to Rich Crites & Dittmer, LLC, an AV rated, 16 attorney full service law firm with over 50 years of service. The firm's core practice groups include real estate tax and appeals, municipal law, business transactions, white collar crime, collections, and civil litigation.

- ☺ Facilitated new marketing initiatives for Rich Crites & Dittmer and the Law Office of Leon Bass using web based marketing and direct marketing, including firm newsletters, traditional marketing, and speaking engagements.
- ☺ Effectively implemented and maintained inventive firm process improvement systems and strategies utilizing latest technology to create highly efficient, paperless mobile office.

2009 - Present: Of Counsel to Chester Willcox & Saxbe, LLP an AV rated, 40 attorney full service law firm with a 125 year history and stellar reputation as a premier litigation and general business law firm. The firm has a rich history of prestigious attorneys, many of whom have held public office, and some even reaching the highest offices such as US and Ohio Attorney General, US and Ohio Senator and Representative, the Ohio Supreme Court and Ohio Lieutenant Governor. In addition, about 1/3 of its partners have been ranked as [2009 "Super Lawyers"](#), and one was given the distinction of a top 10 Super Lawyer by Law and Politics magazine

Representative clients include small to large businesses in various industries with a concentration of clients in the music, entertainment, real estate, and construction industries including concert venues, record labels, publishing companies, booking agents, managers, artists, film producers, construction companies, real estate developers, and condominium associations. Clients have included:

- *Concert venues, agencies and promoters:* Buckeye Lake Music Center (AKA Legend Valley, a 40,000 plus capacity concert venue), Walther Productions (major East Coast concert promoter), Ashley Talent (major international booking agency);
- *National bands and national tours:* Quiet Riot, Dark Star Orchestra, Fatty Koo, and Rock Never Stops (nationwide tour);
- *Record labels:* Harmonized Records, Niliahah Records, and Desert Dreams Productions;
- *Real estate, construction and other business:* Able Roofing, Parking Solutions, Inc., Cumberland Trail Condominium Association, Stillwater Asset Management Fund (large New York hedge fund)

Yearling Green Apartments, Stone Creek Condominium Association, Feazel Roofing, Real Living, Inc., and Hull Pottery Association.

☞ **Representative cases** include:

- Successful defense of trademark infringement and USPTO opposition proceedings brought by large corporation in federal district court (Texas) against local business client. Obtained judgment in favor of client invalidating Plaintiff's long owned and well known industry specific registered trademark, receiving national trade press;
- Successfully obtained dismissal in defense of multi-million dollar breach of concert promotion agreement for US national tour for Quiet Riot, Ted Nugent, Night Ranger, and Slaughter;
- Successfully defended multiple law suits for copyright infringement and breach of contract by national recording artist against our record label client;
- Currently representing a large concert venue in a civil fraud case;
- Currently representing a condominium association against a developer for breach of agreements and statutory violations.

Prior Legal Experience:

- ☞ **Ohio Attorney General**, Columbus, OH, July 1996-April 1997
 - Prepared motions and pre-trial briefs in the Court of Claims Defense Section
- ☞ **Dean Nancy Rogers**, Ohio State University College of Law, May-August 1996
 - Pro bono litigation - pleadings, legal research, litigation strategy, and investigation
- ☞ **Rhino Records, Legal and Business Affairs**, Los Angeles, CA, May-August 1997
 - Prepared, drafted, and negotiated songwriter, licensing, and other music industry contracts
- ☞ **Famous Music Publishing Company, Legal Affairs**, Los Angeles, CA, May-August 1997
 - Drafted and analyzed publishing contracts, including synchronization and master use licenses
- ☞ **MCI WorldCom Advanced Networks**, Hilliard, OH, Sept.-Oct 1998
 - Drafted, negotiated, and analyzed contracts for Fortune 2000 companies
- ☞ **Summers, Anthony & Vargas**, Columbus, OH, May 1996 - Sept. 1998
 - Drafted state and federal appellate briefs, complaints, oral arguments
- ☞ **H. Lee Thompson & Co., L.P.A.**, Columbus, OH, May-July 1996
 - Prepared and managed client files, prepared legal research memos, engaged in negotiation
- ☞ **Law Office of Scott Marshall Neuman**, East Lansing, MI, Summer 1994
 - Prepared briefs, motions, pleadings, and oral argument

Other Experience:

- ☞ Founder of Greater Columbus Music Awards; founder of a personal management company for recording artists; instructor of First Aid, CPR, water safety and swimming; production assistant at PromoWest Productions; music coordinator for religious school; college resident assistant.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- ☞ Supreme Court of Ohio and the United States District Court, Southern District of Ohio
- ☞ Admitted Pro Hoc Vice in Federal District court in Houston, TX and San Diego, CA

ORGANIZATIONS, AFFILIATIONS and ACTIVITIES

- ☞ **Capitol Square Rotary** - President and Board of Directors, multiple committee leadership roles
- ☞ **Hocking College** – Former Board of Advisors, music program
- ☞ **Columbus Community Festival** - Board Member, Entertainment Selection Committee
- ☞ **Music in the Round** – Founder and chairperson of annual charity concert for domestic violence non-profit
- ☞ **Columbus and Ohio Bar Associations** – Member
- ☞ **Photography** – Produced award-winning photographs; concentration in underwater coral reef life
- ☞ **Music** – Performs in various musical acts on guitar, mandolin and vocals

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- ☞ Prior Member of Microsoft Partner Program, proficiency in Windows XP/Vista, most MS Office 2007 applications, Westlaw, MS Small Business Server, Adobe Acrobat/CS3, and QuickBooks Pro

EDUCATION

- ☞ **The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law**, Columbus, OH: Juris Doctor, May 1998
- ☞ **Michigan State University**, East Lansing, MI: Bachelor of Arts with Honor, July 1995
 - Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science with Business Cognate
 - Additional Major: Psychology