



Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts

presents

## Legal Issues in the Fashion Workplace:

### Employment Law and Related Intellectual Property Issues for Individual Designers and Arts and Fashion Business Owners and Managers

As a historic and venerated pillar of the New York arts community, the fashion industry provides amazing jobs and opportunities for designers and artists as well as for fashion business owners. However, the fashion industry is also the source of much litigation resulting from the informal nature of employment in the fashion business and the difficulties surrounding protection of fashion designs. Even the most successful designers and fashion businesses are not immune from legal trouble arising from employment and intellectual property issues. The Donna Karan Company has been sued as a joint employer for alleged violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act and the New York Minimum Wage Act. Designer Joseph Abboud was sued for using his own name to promote a new line of clothing following the sale of his trademark.

This program provides an overview of the laws that govern the relationships between individual artists and designers as employees and independent contractors in the fashion industry and fashion design businesses in their roles as employers. Topics include the employee/independent contractor distinction, employment contracts, intellectual property issues, non-compete agreements, and more! The program will also provide an overview of the intellectual property and other assets that are typically at the heart of these businesses, with a focus on the common employment-related issues that arise in their creation and distribution.

**PROGRAM DATE & TIME:** Tuesday, September 13, 2011, 4 - 6 p.m.

**LOCATION:** VLA's Lobby Auditorium, 1 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street (at Fifth Avenue), New York NY 10022

**CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION CREDIT:** Attorneys attending this workshop may be eligible for **2 CLE credit hours** (1 Professional Practice, 0.5 Skills, and 0.5 Ethics). This program is "transitional," thus newly admitted attorneys are also qualified to receive CLE.

**FEE (all fees are nonrefundable):** Individuals/Orgs: \$35 for VLA members; \$50 for non-members  
Attorneys: \$125 for VLA members; \$175 for non-members

**TO REGISTER:** Complete the information below and **mail, fax, or email this form to Joni Todd** at [jtodd@vlany.org](mailto:jtodd@vlany.org): Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, 1 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10022. **Fax: 212.752.6575.** Please call **Joni Todd** at **212.319.2787 x10** with any questions.

Your Name (Ms., Mr., Mrs.): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm or Organization (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Enclose Your Fee:** We take cash (in person only), check, money order, or credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, or American Express). Please make checks or money orders payable to "Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts" and list your check number directly below: If paying by credit card, please list your card number AND expiration date, and include your signature, directly below:

Amount Due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check Number or Money Order Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



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**Employment and Some Intellectual Property Law for Individual Designers and Arts and Fashion Business Owners and Managers**

### **Presenter Bios**

**Presenter Gary H. Glaser, Esq.** is a partner at the law firm of Seyfarth Shaw LLP practicing in the area of labor and employment law and litigation. Mr. Glaser is also a musician in the band Bill Early and the Collections, which he founded. He is an active member of VLA's Board of Directors, as well as its Labor Counsel and is Labor Counsel for the League of Off-Broadway Theatres & Producers, on whose Board he also sits; he represents a broad base of clients in industries such as sports, financial services, fashion retail and staffing, and does so in all aspects of labor and employment relations law and related litigation, including employment contract disputes, wrongful discharge, sexual and other harassment, and age, race, national origin, religious, sex and disability discrimination.

**Presenter Elena M. Paul, Esq.** is the Executive Director of VLA. In addition, Ms. Paul counsels and represents artists and arts organizations, specializing in corporate and contractual matters. Ms. Paul creates many of VLA's original programs and lectures nationally on a variety of arts and entertainment topics. Ms. Paul serves as an Adjunct Faculty at the New York Film Academy, Brooklyn Law School, and Fordham Law School's Fashion Law Institute. She also serves on the Board of the Friends of the French Culinary Institute and was appointed to the Art Collection Advisory Committee for Davidson College. Prior to VLA, Ms. Paul was Executive Director of Washington Area Lawyers for the Arts, University Counsel in the Office of the President at the University of Maryland, College Park and an attorney at two major national law firms in DC, Patton Boggs and Bryan Cave. Ms. Paul received her Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Davidson College, phi beta kappa, and her Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School.