

# LAW NEWS

News You Can Use from the Lommen Abdo Law Firm



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From Lommen Abdo's Corporate Practice

## LOMMEN ABDO WELCOMES TWO NEW ATTORNEYS



Greg Perleberg has joined Lommen Abdo as a shareholder effective February 1, 2012. As part of the firm's Corporate and Entertainment, IP & Sports groups, Greg's focus will continue to be in the areas of e-commerce, technology and intellectual property. He represents clients on matters such as trademarks, copyrights, protection of trade secrets, software licensing, distribution agreements, as well as commercializing entertainment projects (films, books and music). He also provides general counsel services to a broad array of businesses. Greg's clients include high tech companies, media and entertainment companies, manufacturing companies, inventors, web designers, start-ups, restaurants, breweries, filmmakers, publishers, individual artists and athletes. [Read more about Greg.](#)

Jeff O'Brien joined Lommen Abdo on February 16, 2012. Jeff practices in the areas of business formations, business transactions, real estate law, estate planning and probate law. His clients represent a diverse array of businesses and business owners including real estate agents, developers and investors, title companies, community banks, film producers, restaurant operators, manufacturing companies, and franchised businesses. He has significant experience with the formation of new businesses and he presently serves as President of the American Association of Microbusinesses (AAM). [Read more about Jeff.](#)



From Lommen Abdo's Corporate Practice

## ESTATE PLANNING WITH INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ASSETS

Estate planning for the entertainer, athlete, performer, or creative client can present unique challenges, particularly with the handling of intellectual property. Unique planning is encountered with compositions, manuscripts, collections, and other creative inventions, and the right to publicity for well-known clients. [Read the article](#) co-written by Tim Matson.

If you have questions about estate planning in the entertainment industry, contact [Tim Matson](mailto:tim@lommen.com) at 612-336-9331 or [tim@lommen.com](mailto:tim@lommen.com).

From Lommen Abdo's Personal Injury Practice

## WHAT PARENTS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT POWDERED INFANT FORMULA

Parents feeding powdered infant formula (PIF) to their babies are likely distressed about recent news that Wal-Mart pulled a popular brand of PIF from their shelves because of possible contamination by Cronobacter sakazakii. This is a rare bacteria and is extremely dangerous to infants less than 28 days old. [Read the important facts that parents need to know.](#)



If you have questions about illness arising from the use of PIF, contact [Steve Rathke](mailto:steve@lommen.com) at 612-336-9305 or [steve@lommen.com](mailto:steve@lommen.com) or [Kate Westad](mailto:kate@lommen.com) at 612-336-9322 or [kate@lommen.com](mailto:kate@lommen.com).

From Lommen Abdo's Entertainment Practice

## LAWYER'S EXPANDED ROLE IN THE NEW MUSIC BUSINESS

In the new music business, the entire concept of buying music to own is evaporating into the cloud and migrating into other digital platforms. Major recording companies have consolidated and downsized. The new music business is becoming more decentralized. [Read the article by Ken Abdo.](#)

If you have questions about entertainment law, please contact [Ken Abdo](mailto:ken@lommen.com) at 612-336-9316 or [ken@lommen.com](mailto:ken@lommen.com).

## JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2012

### NEW LEADERS OF BUSINESS LAW GROUP

Tom Dougherty and Dan Young have been appointed co-chairs of Lommen Abdo's Business Law Group.



Lommen Abdo continues to expand its legal capabilities and expertise in the areas of closely held business, intellectual property, employment law, mergers and acquisitions, financing and securities, tax, real estate/land use and entertainment-related law in Minnesota and Wisconsin. [Get the details.](#)

### ACCOLADES 2010 Holiday E-card Awarded

Lommen Abdo's [2010 holiday e-card](#) placed third in the Online Marketing category at the Minnesota Chapter of the Legal Marketing Association's Your Honor Awards.



From Lommen Abdo's Entertainment Practice

### LOMMEN ABDO IN THE NEWS

**Ken Abdo** spoke on a panel on Copyright Law at the MIDEM music conference. The panel was listed as #4 in *Billboard's* [12 Points to Watch at MIDEM 2012](#). *Billboard* also published an article about the panel after the conference in an article titled "[Copyright Extension, Reversion Are Focus of Legal Panel at MIDEM.](#)"

## LOMMEN ABDO

### IN THE NEWS (CONT'D)

**Lee Hutton** was featured in a story on the cover of the [Minnesota Daily](#), the newspaper of the University of Minnesota Minneapolis/St. Paul.

The December 23rd [Minnesota Lawyer](#) e-newsletter featured Lommen Abdo's **2011 holiday e-card**. [View the e-card](#).



**Phil Cole** was interviewed for a [Minnesota Lawyer](#) article, "[Few embrace ABA push on firm ownership](#)."

**Ken Abdo and Steven Greenberg** were featured in multiple articles concerning Steven's hit, "Funkytown" and the landmark filing to revert the copyright for the song back to the original owner. [Read about it](#).

**Brett Clark** was quoted in [National Law Journal](#) article, "[Dodgers sale could narrow McCourt's malpractice claim against Bingham](#)."

**Reid Lindquist** has been reappointed chair of Board of Legal Certifications for a one-year term. The appointment was covered by [Bench & Bar of Minnesota](#).

## SEMINARS

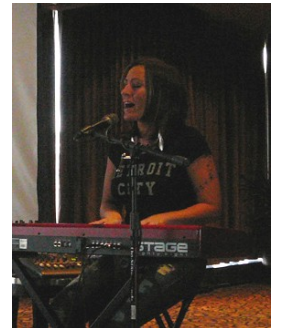
Lommen Abdo and Upsize Minnesota Magazine presented the [Closely Held Business Seminar](#) on October 27, 2011 at Elsie's Bar & Bowling. More than 100 people attended the Seminar. Beth Ewen, Upsize Editor, introduced the seminar and is shown below right with **Dan Young** and **Tom Dougherty** of Lommen Abdo. Presenters included (below left) Tom Dougherty, Lommen Abdo; John Thorvilson, Moquist Thorvilson Kaufmann Kennedy & Pieper LLC; Dan Young, Lommen Abdo; Jim Witt, Barton Walter & Krier, LLC; Erick Reim, Alliance Bank; and Bill Belvedere, Schechter Dokken Kanter.



**Lommen Abdo's Entertainment Department** presented the [Fourth Annual Entertainment Law Symposium](#) on Friday, November 4, 2011. Over lunch, Steven Greenberg and Ken Abdo discussed Steven's hit, Funkytown, and the song being the vanguard of a major Copyright Act case currently in the news (below left). Daryl Friedman from The Recording Academy/GRAMMYS on the



Hill (bottom left) joined Lommen Abdo attorneys John Simson, Bob Donnelly and Ken Abdo for DC/AC: Policy Plays in Washington That Impact the Entertainment Industries. Jarod Hadaway and Chad Koehler from Zivix demonstrated their new music gaming program (below center). Keri Noble performed a song from her newly released holiday album (below right).



[Harvard Law School Entertainment Symposium: The Democratization of Entertainment](#) on November 11, 2011. **Tim Matson** spoke on a panel concerning "Copyright Termination Suits: Who Owns our Favorite Songs and Characters?"

The **Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce's Executive Women's Council** presented [The Business of Professional Sports in Minnesota](#) on January 26th.

Pictured (left to right) are moderator **Margie Bodas**, Lommen Abdo; Lisa Bauch, founder/owner of the Uppercut Gym; Coach Cheryl Reeves, WNBA Champions Minnesota Lynx; Laura Day, Minnesota Twins' Senior Vice President of Business Development; and event sponsor Gena Janetka, Allied Parking. Lommen Abdo is a sponsor of the Executive Women's Council.



[Midem 2012](#) music conference (the world's largest music industry trade fair) on January 28, 2012 in Cannes, France. **Ken Abdo** spoke on a panel concerning "New Horizons in Copyright Law."

## TOYS FOR TOTS

The Minneapolis office donated 133 toys and \$270 at its sixth annual Toys for Tots drive. The donations were delivered to KARE 11 in Golden Valley on December 14th. Nick Dolejsi, Theresa Abdo Whelan, Bryan Feldhaus, Jenny Olson, Dan Young and Lee Hutton appeared on the 10 p.m. newscast.



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Business Succession Planning  
Commercial Litigation  
Construction Disputes  
Contracts  
Corporate Formation  
Creditors' Remedies  
Emerging Growth/Venture Capital  
Employment Law  
Entertainment Law  
Estate Planning  
Family Law  
Governance & Compliance  
Insurance Issues  
Intellectual Property  
Medical Malpractice  
Mergers & Acquisitions  
Personal Injury Litigation  
Probate  
Products Liability  
Professional Liability Litigation  
Real Estate  
Securities Law  
Sports Law  
Tax Planning & Disputes  
Vaccine Law  
Workers' Compensation  
Wrongful Death

## CLIENT HIGHLIGHTS

**Maia Hag**, I See Me! Inc., was featured in an [Upsize Minnesota cover story](#). [I See Me! Inc.](#) was one of two winners of the Upsize Growth Challenge and is the largest publisher of personalized children's books with the mission of building self esteem in children.

**Safekey Corporation**, which produces a tool to help deter impaired driving and auto theft, was featured in a [KSTP news segment](#).

The **Minneapolis Storm Hockey** program and Executive Director, **Paul Larson**, were featured in a WCCO news story, "[Minneapolis Youth Hockey Gets a Second Wind](#)."

**Kris Humphries**, Minnesota Timberwolves; **Rick Kupchella**, BringMeTheNews; and **Doug Ruth**, EarthClean Corporation were included in the *Twin Cities Business* list of "[200 Minnesotans You Should Know](#)."

**Bloomington Clinic** has been acquired by Fairview Health Services. Read the [Twin Cities Business](#) article.

## MUSIC NOTES AND NEWS

**Keri Noble** appeared on WCCO on Good Question: [Why Are New Christmas Songs So Rare?](#)

## WATCH US

In the coming months we will be featuring videos about Lommen Abdo attorneys and our practice areas. This month Tom Jacobson, Jamie Johnson and Brent Johnson discuss the services provided in our [Hudson, Wisconsin office](#).



[Kenneth J. Abdo](#) (Minnesota)  
[Robert P. Abdo](#) (Minnesota)  
[Howard M. Bard](#) - Of Counsel (Minnesota)  
[Paul J. Bezilla](#) (Minnesota, California)  
[Sheila A. Bjorklund](#) (Minnesota, Wisconsin)  
[Margie R. Bodas](#) (Minnesota)  
[Keith J. Broady](#) (Minnesota)  
[Brett P. Clark](#) (Minnesota)  
[Phillip A. Cole](#) (Minnesota)  
[Stacey A. DeKalb](#) (Minnesota, Wisconsin)  
[Nick A. Dolejsi](#) (Minnesota)  
[Bob Donnelly](#) (New York)  
[Thomas F. Dougherty](#) (Minnesota)  
[Bryan R. Feldhaus](#) (Minnesota)

## WHO'S WHO AT LOMMEN ABDO?

Paul Bezilla is a shareholder and a key member of the firm's entertainment law group. He has been a lawyer for over 30 years (20 of which were spent in Los Angeles) and has been with Lommen Abdo for over 5 years. Paul represents clients in all areas of the entertainment industry, including music, movies, publishing, merchandising and television (especially reality television these days).



Paul has been a featured speaker at numerous entertainment industry seminars presented by the American Bar Association, the Los Angeles County Bar Association, the California Copyright Conference, the Minnesota State Bar Association and the South By Southwest Music Festival. He has frequently lectured on entertainment law topics in the Music Department of the University of Southern California and taught courses in music business law for the Graduate Film Composing Program at USC.

Paul spent his formative years in Iowa and played bass in a rock band called "The Pages," who were inducted into the Iowa Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame in 1999. He still plays bass and performs regularly with a local band called "Funkwire," which plays music from the 70s, 80s and today. Paul has a daughter who produces video games for The Walt Disney Company in Burbank, California, and a son who is a computer programmer for a web hosting company in Santa Monica, California.

## HELPING MAKE A WISH COME TRUE

The Vikings hosted Gage Driver, who was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor in October of 2011. Gage was able to meet his favorite Viking, Jared Allen, and the rest of the team. View the [Minnesota Vikings video](#) of the meeting. The meeting was set up by Lommen Abdo attorney Lee Hutton.



## GET YOUR COMPANY FEATURED IN UPSIZE MINNESOTA

If your company is 10 years old, Upsize wants to hear from you! Send an e-mail by February 29th to Beth Ewen at [bewen@upsizemag.com](mailto:bewen@upsizemag.com) with "10 years old" in the subject line.

In no more than 100 words, describe one "lesson learned" by your founders and management team in building the company over the past decade, and one "best practice" that you believe has made your company successful (bonus points for non-cliché and "real" answers.)

**Upsize**  
Minnesota

Also, state your company name, year founded (2001 or 2002 are both eligible), products/services and primary market, number of employees and annual revenue. Upsize will cover as many as possible in the April/May edition of the magazine, and offer you an opportunity to tout your success in a special advertising section.

[John M. Giblin](#) (Minnesota)  
[Ronald L. Haskvitz](#) (Minnesota)  
[Kay Nord Hunt](#) (Minnesota, Wisconsin)  
[Lee A. Hutton III](#) (Minnesota)  
[Thomas R. Jacobson](#) (Minnesota, Wisconsin)  
[Marc A. Johannsen](#) (Minnesota, Wisconsin)  
[Brent R. Johnson](#) (Minnesota, Wisconsin)  
[James R. Johnson](#) (Minnesota, Wisconsin)  
[Leonard T. Juster](#) - Of Counsel (Minnesota)  
[Glenn R. Kessel](#) (Minnesota, Wisconsin)  
[Michael E. Keyes](#) (Minnesota)  
[Robert J. King, Jr.](#) (Minnesota, Wisconsin)  
[Reid R. Lindquist](#) (Minnesota, Wisconsin)  
[Timothy C. Matson](#) (Minnesota)  
[Michael J. Mollerus](#) - Of Counsel (Minnesota)

[Jeffrey C. O'Brien](#) (Minnesota, Wisconsin)  
[Barry A. O'Neil](#) (Minnesota)  
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[John L. Simson](#) - Of Counsel (Washington, D.C.)  
[Roger V. Stageberg](#) (Minnesota)  
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[Sherri D. Ulland](#) (Minnesota)  
[Kate G. Westad](#) (Minnesota)  
[Daniel J. Young](#) (Minnesota)

LA Law News contains both information about the Lommen Abdo Law Firm and current legal issues. LA Law News articles focus on broadly applicable legal principles. Readers are cautioned that any information contained in the newsletter should not be acted upon without professional advice. Contact your Lommen Abdo lawyer for the specific law in your state.

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