## Neil J. Sacker



Of Counsel, Los Angeles

Corporate, Media and Entertainment



With more than two decades of experience working in the entertainment industry, Neil Sacker has handled matters across a wide range of areas, including business and legal affairs, financing, operations, development and production, acquisitions and digital distribution for major film studios such as Warner Bros. Studio and Miramax Films, as well as for leading independent film companies.

Mr. Sacker currently serves as counsel and adviser to many industry-leading financiers worldwide in connection with their investments in film, television, digital productions and new media innovations. He recently advised on negotiating and drafting contracts for the films "Wind River," "Home Again" and "S.M.A.R.T. Chase," an English-language film produced entirely in China.

Mr. Sacker started his entertainment career as a senior theatrical counsel at Warner Bros., negotiating and drafting writer, director, producer and actor agreements; handling complex rights matters; and overseeing production legal issues for numerous pictures. When he joined Miramax, he became one of the youngest executives to ever run the business and legal affairs department at a studio working on more than 75 films, including "Scream," "Good Will Hunting" and "The English Patient," as well as the acquisition of rights to the "Lord of the Rings" franchise.

After Miramax, Mr. Sacker served as chief operating officer of the Yari Film Group, the producer/financier of the Academy Award-winning "Crash" and numerous other successful films, including "The Illusionist," "The Matador," "The Painted Veil" and "Prime." Following Yari Film Group, Mr. Sacker became president of The Film Department, an independent movie production, finance and international sales company, where he managed all areas of the business, including development, production, business and legal affairs, finance and international sales. He also served as president of Big Air Studios, an innovative motion picture marketing and distribution company.

Before joining Skadden, Mr. Sacker was special counsel at another prominent law firm.