



# ASHLEY R. YEARGAN

## ENTERTAINMENT & MEDIA LITIGATION

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### BIOGRAPHY

Ashley R. Yeargan is a Partner in Liner's Entertainment & Media Group. She has represented a variety of clients in the media and entertainment industry, including actors, directors, writers, producers, musical artists, managers, small studios and production companies, and video game companies.

Ashley focuses her practice on matters involving defamation, rights of privacy and publicity, copyright and trademark infringement, and breach of contract. She has litigated in federal and state courts, as well as before various arbitral tribunals in California.

While a law student at Stanford Law School, Ashley collaborated with former U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher on a report for the National War Powers Commission concerning the respective powers of the U.S. President and Congress to make and declare war. The final report was released July 8, 2008, and proposed a statute that would replace the War Powers Resolution of 1973.

### EDUCATION

Stanford Law School (J.D., with distinction)

Yale University, History (B.A., summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa; Phi Alpha Theta)

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### SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS & PUBLICATIONS

- Guest speaker on entertainment law at the USC Gould School of Law, Topics In Entertainment Law
- This land is your land, and this song may be your song, *Los Angeles Daily Journal* (June 28, 2016)
- One Last Swing at Google Books Project, *Los Angeles Daily Journal* (January 12, 2016)
- Batmobile Captures Copyright Protection, *Los Angeles Daily*

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*Journal* (October 6, 2015)

- Quoted, Artist sues Netflix in rare copyright claim, *Los Angeles Daily Journal* (September 10, 2015)
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## NEWS

- June 21, 2017: Is There Such a Thing as "Entertainment Law"?  
*IPWatchdog*
- June 5, 2017: Liner Super Lawyers Rising Stars 2017  
*Super Lawyers Magazine*
- December 14, 2016: Three Liner LLP Lawyers Promoted to Partner  
*Lawdragon*
- November 9, 2016: Ashley Yeargan Featured in The Hollywood Reporter's "Top 35 Under 35" List  
*The Hollywood Reporter*
- June 28, 2016: This land is your land, and this song may be your song  
*Los Angeles Daily Journal*
- May 25, 2016: 'Bachelor' Spoiler Alert! How Reality Steve Still Gets Away With Ruining the Show  
*The Hollywood Reporter*
- April 20, 2016: Liner scores victory in Blake Shelton defamation case
- April 14, 2016: Congratulations to Ashley Yeargan - Top Entertainment Attorney in The Variety 2016 Legal Impact Report  
*Variety*
- March 17, 2016: Blake Shelton Slams Tabloid's "Appalling" Evidence of Alcoholism  
*The Hollywood Reporter*
- January 12, 2016: One Last Swing at Google Books Project  
*Los Angeles Daily Journal*
- November 2, 2015: Google Books decision is logical evolution of law  
*Los Angeles Daily Journal*
- October 6, 2015: Batmobile Captures Copyright Protection  
*Los Angeles Daily Journal*

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## RECOGNITION

- "Top 35 Under 35," *The Hollywood Reporter* (2016)
- Named by *Variety's* Legal Impact Report as "Up Next" in Entertainment Litigation (2016)
- Stanford Law School's Intellectual Property Writing Award, First Place Recipient (2008)
- *Southern California Super Lawyers - Rising Star* (2012-2017)

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## COMMUNITY

- Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Foundation's New Leadership Council
- USC Law School/BHBA Entertainment Law and Business Symposium, Syllabus Committee

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## REPRESENTATIONS

- Representing Blake Shelton in his defamation action against Bauer Publishing in connection with *In Touch* magazine's publication of the false and defamatory cover story "REHAB For Blake." Shelton defeated Bauer's anti-SLAPP Motion to Dismiss, and the matter is on appeal at the Ninth Circuit.
- Representing Ciara in a false light invasion of privacy case against her former boyfriend Future.
- Defending Kylin Pictures International, Inc., in a breach of contract dispute brought by actor Kevin Costner regarding the motion picture "Shanghai Sojourners."
- Representing high profile individuals in obtaining retractions (and takedowns) from online and print entertainment news media.
- Representing the Carroll Hall Shelby Trust in litigation against a Trust beneficiary.
- Defending reality television personality Camille Grammer in a case currently pending in federal court in Dallas, Texas, involving defamation and malicious prosecution and counterclaiming assault and battery.

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- Providing ongoing legal counsel to Tokyo Broadcasting System Television, Inc., in connection with U.S. projects, including the series *American Ninja Warrior*.
- Handling confidential Hollywood accounting disputes related to contractual participations in films and television programs.

In the following recently concluded matters, Ashley:

- Obtained the anti-SLAPP dismissal of a trade libel and interference case against musician Drake related to statements regarding the theatrical release of a film entitled, *Drake's Homecoming*.
- Represented record producer and executive Jolene Cherry and her label The Cherry Party in cases against artist Judith Hill and Prince for, respectively, breach of contract and interference with contract. The Cherry Party alleged that Prince interfered with its recording agreement with Hill by recording and releasing Hill's music to the public as a free download.
- Represented Dan Lin, Roy Lee, and Doug Davison in their dispute against Legendary regarding credit and compensation in connection with the feature film *Godzilla*.
- Represented an independent production company plaintiff in an action for breach of contract and fraud in connection with the motion picture *The Mechanic*.
- Represented a talent manager in a commissions dispute against his former television actress client.
- Represented Tokyo Broadcasting System Television, Inc., in a copyright infringement case against American Broadcasting Companies, Inc. ("ABC") and Endemol USA in connection with their reality program *Wipeout*. The case also involved a claim that ABC improperly promoted *Wipeout* by trading on consumer goodwill associated with Tokyo Broadcasting's shows in order to attract viewers.
- Represented a television actress in a dispute involving the alleged breach of an agreement to provide endorsement services.