

## ABOUT JOAN

Joan's practice concentrates on intellectual property transactions in the areas of entertainment, arts, publishing, music, internet, fashion and luxury goods law. Joan regularly advises clients with complex legal issues and business matters such as trademarks, domain name issues, business entity formation, standard releases, book publishing agreements, agency agreements, band collaboration agreements and brand licensing.

Involved in the fashion and modeling industries for over twenty years, Joan knows the industry from the inside. She holds a graduate certificate in Fashion Law from the Fashion Law Institute at Fordham Law, NYC. Joan developed the first fashion law CLE approved by the Virginia State Bar. Joan's experience as a licensed private investigator has proven valuable in assisting authorities in the removal of her client's counterfeit goods from online websites such as EBay. Her experience in this area complements the firm's entertainment clients looking to launch and maintain their own fashion labels.

Joan regularly holds seminars with emerging designers, fashion models, and parents of burgeoning talent. She is an active member and supporter of the Model Alliance in New York City. Having a daughter who has been a model since she was two, Joan understand the concerns and frequently advises models and their parents of the issues involved in the fashion modeling industry. Joan was featured with her daughter as a guest on The Katie Couric show in 2014. The episode high-lighted the difficulties child fashion models encounter in the industry and the necessity of New York's Child Model law and parental involvement in their children's careers.

As a published writer herself, Joan has a unique perspective of the literary landscape. Her book, *Feng Shui Love* (Palari Publishing 2009, co-authored by Lisa Hyatt) hit the "chick-lit" world with complementary merchandise and design lines. Reviewers of the book include Cindy Williams of Laverne and Shirley, who noted "Feng Shui Love is a Fun Shui Read!" and Emyl Jenkins, author of *The Big Steal*, who added, "Stop rearranging your furniture and spend your time reading Feng Shui Love. Along the way you might learn a little about life its own self." Additionally Joan is a columnist for *Urge Magazine* and a founding member of James River Writers, a central Virginia non-profit that builds community by inspiring and educating readers and writers.

Pro-bono service with the Virginia Bar Association's Lawyers for the Arts Committee inspired Joan to develop a "Coffee with an Art Lawyer" program, which allows visual artists, musicians, authors, fashion designers and other artsy individuals a consultation at specified times in area coffee shops twice per month.

Prior to private practice, Joan served as law clerk to Senior Justice Harry L. Carrico of the Supreme Court of Virginia. She is an experienced mediator and has mediated numerous cases involving business and family matters. Joan's diverse clients include fashion designers, authors, musicians, models, actors, actresses, inventors, photographers, event coordinators, tattoo artists, visual artists, jewelry designers, and specialty boutiques.

## AREAS OF CONCENTRATION

Fashion Law  
Fashion Model Law  
Mediation  
Literary/Publishing  
Visual Arts  
Internet Disputes  
Music/Music Publishing  
Internet /Domain Names

## EDUCATION

Graduate Certificate, Fashion Law Institute, Fordham School of Law  
Clerkship, Supreme Court of Virginia, The Honorable Harry L. Carrico  
Barry University School of Law, J.D.  
University of Richmond  
Stetson College of Law, International Business Law Course Concentration  
Virginia Commonwealth University, M.S.  
Virginia Commonwealth University, B.A.

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

ABA Forum on Entertainment and Sports Law  
The Model Alliance  
Fashion Group International (Executive Member)  
International Association of Entertainment Lawyers  
Greater Richmond Intellectual Property Association  
Metropolitan Richmond Women's Bar Association  
Fredericksburg Bar Association  
Virginia State Bar Intellectual Property Law Section  
James River Writers  
New York Lawyers for the Arts  
Washington Area Lawyers for the Arts

## BAR ADMISSION

Virginia State Bar  
U.S. Supreme Court  
Federal Bar 4<sup>th</sup> Circuit  
New York (Pending)

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Coffee with an Art Lawyer pro-bono program  
Fashion Law pro-bono pop up clinics  
Chair, St. Catherine's Daisy Days Corporate Sponsor Committee  
Virginia Bar Association Lawyers for the Arts Committee  
Virginia State Bar Lawyer Referral Committee

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Fredericksburg Lunch n Learn "Intro to Fashion Law"

Nashville Bar Entertainment and Sports Forum "Fashion Law Couture"

Virginia Bar CLE "A Primer on Fashion Law"

Northern Virginia Film Festival "Fashion in the Film Industry"

International Fashion Expo "Legal Issues in Fashion Modeling"

VCU School of Design "Legal Issues - Fashion Designers"

Virginia Fashion Week-Fashion Law Pop Up Clinics

Virginia Equine Artists Association

Bon Air Artists Association

James River Writers Conference

Instructor and Professional Development Consultant, Barbizon School of Modeling

South University, Richmond, Virginia

Webster College, Palm Harbor, Florida

Bryant & Stratton College, Richmond, Virginia

J. Sergeant Reynolds Community College