



Curtis E. Smolar
201 Spear Street, Suite 1000
San Francisco, CA 94105
Direct: (415) 972-6308
Office: (415) 543-4800
Fax: (415) 972-6301
Email: csmolar@rmkb.com
Web: www.rmkb.com

Mr. Smolar's practice includes complex civil litigation, commercial litigation, real estate litigation, employment litigation, and securities litigation. He has handled cases involving contract disputes, securities, real estate, creditor rights, including bankruptcy litigation, business torts, entertainment, licensing, intellectual property, mold and other toxic substances, Business and Professions Code Section 17200, California's Proposition 64, contractual interpretation, unfair competition, unlawful detainer, SLAPP, and arbitrations.

Mr. Smolar also represents clients in the renewable energy industry, including biofuels. He has assisted investors, joint venturers, traders and manufacturers with a variety of issues including business development negotiations, land acquisition, biofuel manufacturing and refining, brokerage deals, marketing agreements, sales, and other transactions. In addition to counseling, Mr. Smolar has represented some of these clients during litigation, including mediation and arbitration proceedings.

Mr. Smolar also has significant transactional experience. He has negotiated large and small corporate and licensing deals for numerous clients, ranging from the small Internet start-ups to well-established multibillion dollar publicly traded companies. He assists companies in all stages of their corporate life from inception and incorporation, securitization, employment issues, to corporate development events including mergers and acquisitions.

Having worked for four years in New York City prior to law school at Miramax Studios and Broadway Video, Lorne Michaels's production companies, Mr. Smolar has a particularly keen eye towards entertainment and licensing issues. He has assisted creative people and businesses with company organization, intellectual property licensing, and intellectual property asset development.

Mr. Smolar is a member of the San Francisco Intellectual Property Law Association, the San Francisco and American Bar Associations and is currently President of the The Lawyers' Club of San Francisco. He is a member of the California State Bar. Additionally, Mr. Smolar is a member of the advisory board for the Webby Awards and offers guidance on a regular basis to several San Francisco based start-up companies.

Mr. Smolar holds a B.S. with Honors from the Newhouse School of Communications at Syracuse University, and a J.D. from Southern Methodist University. He grew up in Manhattan and currently lives with his family in San Francisco.

Practice Areas

- Professional Liability
- Medical Malpractice
- Real Estate Agents and Brokers
- Other Professionals
- Business And Commercial Litigation
- Real Estate
- Employment
- Entertainment
- Contract/UCC
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Intellectual Property
- Employment Litigation and Dispute Resolution

Education

- S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University, 1990 B.S.
- SMU Dedman School of Law, 1997 J.D.

Court Admission

- California

Memberships & Associations

- American Bar Association (ABA)
- Bar Association of San Francisco
- San Francisco Intellectual Property Law Association (SFIPLA)

Publications

- Author, Draw the Line, *Smart Business*, 10/1/2011
- Author, Can Google+ replace your company's intranet?, *VentureBeat Blog*, 8/22/2011
- Author, Fight! Fight! Are you liable when your employees and customers mix it up?, *VentureBeat Blog*, 8/8/2011
- Author, Where are the lines in employee surveillance?, *VentureBeat Blog*, 7/25/2011
- Author, Where should you incorporate your LLC? , *VentureBeat Blog*, 7/11/2011
- Author, 4 Legal Pitfalls Startup Owners Must Face , *VentureBeat Blog*, 6/27/2011
- Author, Cut-and-Pasting Legal Language vs. Hiring a Lawyer, *VentureBeat Blog*, 6/13/2011
- Author, How Legal is Content Scraping?, *VentureBeat Blog- Ask the Attorney* , 5/30/2011
- Author, Legal danger zone: 'Friending' your boss – or your employee, *VentureBeat Blog- Ask the Attorney*, 5/16/2011
- Author, 5 Things to Consider Before Firing Back at Online Critics, *VentureBeat Blog- Ask the Attorney* , 5/2/2011
- Author, The Auto-renewal Conundrum, *VentureBeat Blog- Ask the Attorney*, 4/18/2011
- Author, Not Every Contract is Set in Stone, *VentureBeat Blog- Ask the Attorney*, 4/4/2011

- Author, 5 Things to Include in a Separation Agreement, *VentureBeat Blog -Ask the Attorney*, 3/7/2001
- Author, Can you fire someone for disparaging your company on Facebook?, *VentureBeat Blog- Ask the Attorney*, 2/21/2011
- Author, Safeguarding your company from poachers, *VentureBeat Blog- Ask the Attorney*, 2/7/2011
- Author, How private is employee email?, *Venture Beat Blog- Ask the Attorney*, 1/24/2011
- Author, There's no such thing as a free sample , *VentureBeat Blog- Ask the Attorney*, 1/10/11
- Author, Things to Beware of at Company Parties, *Venture Beat Blog- Ask the Attorney*, 10/18/2010
- Author, 5 Questions You Should Never Ask a Job Candidate, *Venture Beat Blog- Ask the Attorney*, 9/20/2010
- Author, Using Contractors? Lock Down Their Work as Your IP, *Venture Beat Blog - Ask the Attorney*, 8/23/2010
- Author, Are Your Personnel Files Too Personal?, *Venture Beat Blog - Ask the Attorney*, 8/8/2010
- Author, How Liable Are You For Copyrighted Material on Your Website?, *Venture Beat Blog - Ask the Attorney*, 7/26/2010
- Author, Who Owns User-Generated Content?, *Venture Beat Blog - Ask the Attorney*, 7/12/2010
- Author, Should You Pay to Trademark Your Product or Service?, *Venture Beat Blog - Ask the Attorney*, 6/28/2010
- Author, Hiring a Contractor? Here's How to Avoid The Legal Headaches, *Venture Beat Blog - Ask the Attorney*, 5/31/2010