

Relativity Media legal exec joins Sklar Kirsh

By Paula Lehman- Ewing

Los Angeles law firm Sklar Kirsh LLP announced Hillel M. Elkins, the former executive vice president of business and legal affairs at Relativity Media LLC, has joined its entertainment and media group.

Elkins is the third entertainment industry in-house lawyer Sklar has brought on in as many years. Michael N. Rosner also joined from Relativity and, last year, the firm hired Scott R. Ehrlich, the former Deluxe Entertainment Services Group Inc. general counsel.

Sklar Kirsh co-chairman Jeffrey A. Sklar spent time with both Elkins and Rosner as an attorney at Loeb & Loeb LLP.

According to Sklar, the appointments are part of an ongoing strategy to improve the firm's entertainment and media practice as its clientele grows and inside knowledge of the industry becomes essential to providing services.

"General counsel really have a deep understanding that's different and unique compared to someone who's only been in a law firm," Sklar said. "They've been clients and so they understand intuitively what clients need."

"It's unconventional for a law firm to focus on recruiting general counsel as a strategy," he continued, "but the opportunities presented themselves and circumstances lined up in a great way."

Elkins earned his law degree from the University of Southern California Gould School of Law. After seven years at Loeb & Loeb, he went in-house as the general counsel of Blumhouse Productions, which produces micro-budget films.

For the last three years, he's served in both a business and legal capacity at Relativity Media, a content production and distribution company in Beverly Hills.

"It's really a unique opportunity and I'm excited to work with Jeff and his team," Elkins said. "Having run business affairs at Relativity and Blumhouse, I'm hoping to bring those types of services to other production companies in the industry."

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