

DAVID O. CARSON

David O. Carson is Senior Copyright Counsel in the Office of Policy and International Affairs at the United States Patent and Trademark Office. He heads the copyright policy team, which assists in advising the Administration and other Federal Government departments and agencies on domestic and international copyright legal and policy issues. At the international level, the OPIA copyright team provides analysis and advice on foreign copyright laws and the international copyright system, including assistance in negotiating new international copyright norms, their implementation in U.S. law, and the enforcement of international obligations. At the domestic level, the OPIA copyright team provides analysis and advice on copyright developments within the Executive branch and to the U.S. Congress and the courts. As a complement to its international and domestic policy activities, the OPIA copyright team is actively engaged in providing technical assistance and training on copyright-related matters for both U.S. and foreign government officials.

From 2012 to 2014, he was Executive Vice President, Global Legal Policy at the IFPI, the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry, in London where he represented the recording industry worldwide.

From 1997 to 2006 and 2009 to 2012, he was General Counsel of the United States Copyright Office, a principal legal advisor to the Register of Copyrights, with responsibility for the Office's regulatory activities, litigation, administration of the copyright law, and providing liaison on legal matters between the Office and Congress, the Department of Justice and other agencies of Government, the courts, the legal community, and other interests affected by the copyright law. The Copyright Office, part of the Library of Congress, administers the U.S. copyright law.

From the end of 2006 until the end of 2008, he was Associate Register for Policy and International Affairs at the Copyright Office. As Associate Register, he was the head of the Office of Policy and International Affairs, which assists the Register of Copyrights in advising Congress and executive branch agencies on domestic and international copyright policy matters. He represented the Copyright Office in U.S. government delegations to meetings at the World Intellectual Property Organization, including its Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights, and in relations with other governments and intergovernmental organizations.

From 1981 to 1997, he was in private practice in Beverly Hills, California and then in New York City, where he specialized in copyright and media law.