



Robert Rini
Partner

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Overview

Robert Rini represents telecommunications, media and technology clients before Congress, the FCC and in communications-related transactions.

Robert Rini's practice focuses on the representation of broadcast, wireless broadband companies, and Educational Institutions and organizations that hold educational broadband service ("EBS") licenses before Congress, the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and other federal and state administrative agencies. He has successfully negotiated hundreds of spectrum leases, purchase and sale agreements, and program carriage and retransmission consent agreements. He has broad experience in transactions, general corporate, mergers and acquisitions, regulatory, legislative, trademark and copyright law.

Mr. Rini is a frequent speaker at telecommunications, media and technology conferences and seminars. He is general counsel and serves on the Board of Directors of The Source for Learning, Inc., a national distance learning company that holds EBS licenses. He has also served on the Board of Directors of Pegasus Tower Company and as President of the alumni association for the Institute for Communications Law Studies at The Catholic University of America Law School (2004) and Co-Chair of the On-Line Committee (2004-2005) and the Mass Media Committee (2005-

2006) of the Federal Communications Bar Association.

Mr. Rini is quoted frequently in newspapers and trade press, including The Wall Street Journal and Communications Daily and has appeared on National Public Radio and television to discuss communications law related issues.

Robert Rini is A/V rated by Martindale Hubbell, the highest peer review rating available to attorneys that provides an objective indicator that a lawyer has the highest ethical standards and professional ability.

Education

Catholic University Law School, Institute for Communications Law Studies, J.D., 1985.

State University of New York at Albany, cum laude, B.A., 1982.

Professional Memberships and Activities

Admitted to practice in the District of Columbia.

Admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia and U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

Member, Federal Communications Bar Association.

Specific Experience

- Prepared and administered requests for proposals or RFP's for EBS spectrum
- Negotiated hundreds of spectrum lease and acquisition agreements.
- Represented rural telecommunications cooperative at the FCC in successfully opposing major satellite merger.
- Advised start-up cable television programming network and television program concerning FCC compliance issues.
- Led a coalition of broadcasters seeking new digital television

allocations, and successfully secured 17 out of 39 changes to the table of allocations made by the FCC.

- Organized the Small Cable Business Association and successfully represented small cable operators in their efforts to obtain exemptions from burdensome FCC regulations.
- Represented multichannel video providers before Congress and the FCC seeking access to programming, resulting in passage of the 1992 Cable Act and various FCC rules.
- Secured first experimental authorizations for the provision of fixed wireless two-way Internet services.
- Negotiated agreements and obtained Section 214 authorizations for new telecommunications companies to commence international service.
- Organized a coalition of educators opposing spectrum auctions.
- Drafted portions of registration statements and other securities documents and provide risk assessment for clients and financial institutions seeking to raise public and private debt and equity.

Representative Publications

"FCC Provides Guidance on Compliance with BRS and EBS "Substantial Service" Requirement, by Robert Rini, TelecomMediaTechlaw.com, February 28, 2011

"Comcast – NBCU: FCC's Merger Conditions Will Impact the Retransmission Consent Marketplace," by Robert Rini , TelecomMediaTechlaw.com, January 31, 2011

"Fixed Wireless Seeks Radical Reworking of FCC Rules," by Robert Rini, TR Wireless March/April 2003

"Digital Rights Management Takes Center Stage," by Robert Rini, San Francisco Daily Journal, October 9, 2002.

"Spectrum Policy Needed as Economic Stimulus," by Robert Rini, TR Wireless, October 30, 2001.

"FCC Takes Hard Line on Implementing E911," by Robert Rini and T. Michael Jankowski, TR Wireless, April 19, 2001.

"'3G' Allocation Process Could Pinch Fixed Wireless," by Robert Rini and Jonathan E. Allen, TR Wireless, January 18, 2001.

"FCC Inquiry Encourages Broadband System Use," by Robert Rini and T. Michael Jankowski, TR Wireless, March 9, 2000.

"FCC May Hold Auctions for ITFS Spectrum Permits," by Robert Rini, TR Wireless, February 3, 2000.

"Wireless Providers Seek Greater Access Rights," by Robert Rini, TR Wireless, September 23, 1999

"UNE Ruling Spurs Telecom Competition," by Robert Rini, TR Wireless, October 7, 1999

"The FCC's New Deal for Wireless," by Robert Rini and Stephen E. Coran, Wireless Voice Video Data, November 30, 1998.

"Will Cable Carry the DTV Load?" by Robert Rini and Harvey Kellman, Legal Times, June 15, 1998.