



GRAMMY FOUNDATION®

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PRESS RELEASE

GRAMMY FOUNDATION® TO PRESENT 17TH ANNUAL ENTERTAINMENT LAW INITIATIVE® LUNCHEON & SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION FEATURING KEYNOTE BY CONGRESSMAN JERROLD NADLER

RENOWNED ENTERTAINMENT ATTORNEY RUSSELL FRACKMAN TO RECEIVE SERVICE AWARD

Scholarship Program For Promising Entertainment Law Students Awards Cash Scholarships; Winners To Present Papers At Annual ELI Luncheon During GRAMMY Week

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (Dec. 8, 2014) — The **GRAMMY Foundation®** will present the **17th Annual Entertainment Law Initiative® Luncheon & Scholarship Presentation** featuring a **keynote address** by **Rep. Jerrold Nadler** (D-N.Y.). **Russell Frackman**, a partner in the law firm of Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP, will be the recipient of the **2015 Service Award**. The honor is awarded to an attorney who has demonstrated a commitment to advancing and supporting the music community through service. Other program participants include: Ron Wilcox, ELI Executive Chair; Ken Abdo, ELI Executive Committee Program Chair and top music industry attorney (Lommen, Abdo, Cole, King & Stageberg, P.A.); and Neil Portnow, President/CEO of The Recording Academy® and the GRAMMY Foundation. At the luncheon, a cash scholarship of \$5,000 will be awarded to the winner of the **ELI Writing Competition**, and \$1,500 will be awarded to each of four runners-up. Additionally, all ELI Writing Competition finalists will receive airfare, hotel accommodations and a ticket to the 57th Annual GRAMMY Awards®, which will be held at STAPLES Center in Los Angeles on Sunday, Feb. 8, 2015, and broadcast live at 8 p.m. ET/PT on the CBS Television Network, as well as invitations to other GRAMMY® Week activities. The **ELI Writing Competition** is open to **law students**, who are asked to write a **3,000-word essay on a compelling legal issue facing the music industry**. **Competition rules** are online at www.entertainmentlawinitiative.com, and **submissions must be received by Jan. 6, 2015 (1 p.m. ET /10 a.m. PT)**.

"Each year, the ELI Luncheon brings together the most successful legal minds in the field of entertainment law with top law students to showcase current issues and provide a forum for discussion of key matters that are engaging the music industry today," said Portnow. "This year's keynote address by Congressman Nadler will undoubtedly offer insights and new perspectives, and the presentation of our Service Award to Russ Frackman is a testament to his longtime commitment to our music community and its members."

Nadler represents the 10th Congressional District of New York, which includes much of the West Side of Manhattan, the financial district and a number of diverse neighborhoods in southwestern Brooklyn. He is the top-ranking Democrat on the House Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet, which is currently undergoing a multiyear review of music licensing laws. Nadler has a proven track record in supporting music creators and has stated his intent to introduce far-reaching legislation to address fair payment for music makers.

Nadler began his political career in 1976 in the New York State Assembly, where he served for 16 years. In 1992, following the death of Congressman Ted Weiss, Nadler was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in a special election and has served in Congress ever since. He was re-elected to his 12th full term in 2014, receiving more than 80 percent of the vote.

During his 45 years of practice as a trial lawyer, Frackman has been a "go-to" lawyer for the entertainment industry. He has represented, among others, the Recording Industry Association of America, record and music publishing companies, and artists such as Coldplay, Neil Diamond, Jimmy Page, Radiohead, and David Lee Roth. Frackman is recognized as one of the nation's leading entertainment and intellectual property litigators, and has successfully represented clients in a

number of landmark cases in state and federal trial and appellate courts, including the record company plaintiffs in the seminal Internet file-sharing litigation *A&M Records, Inc. v. Napster, Inc.*, *In re Aimster Copyright Litigation*, and *Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios, Inc., et al. v. Grokster, Ltd., et al.*

The GRAMMY Foundation was established in 1988 to cultivate the understanding, appreciation and advancement of the contribution of recorded music to American culture. The Foundation accomplishes this mission through programs and activities that engage the music industry and cultural community as well as the general public. The Foundation works in partnership year-round with its founder, The Recording Academy[®], to bring national attention to important issues such as the value and impact of music and arts education and the urgency of preserving our rich cultural heritage. In recognition of the significant role of teachers in shaping their students' musical experiences, the GRAMMY Foundation and The Recording Academy partnered to present their first Music Educator Award in 2014. Open to current U.S. music teachers in kindergarten through college, the second annual Music Educator Award will be given out during GRAMMY Week 2015. For more information about our music education programs, please visit www.grammyintheschools.com. For breaking news and exclusive content, please like "GRAMMY in the Schools[®]" on [Facebook](#), follow @GRAMMYFdn on [Twitter](#) and join @GRAMMYFdn on [Instagram](#).

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