



## On the Record: Artists and Advocacy in the Legislative Arena

Thursday, March 3, 2016  
5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino  
1 Seminole Way, Hollywood, FL 33314

### Moderator

**Kenneth Abdo**, Attorney at Law, Lommen Abdo, P.A.



Ken Abdo is Chair of Lommen Abdo Law Firm's Entertainment Law Department and has served as legal counsel to music and entertainment media artists for over 30 years. Clients include multiple Grammy® award recipients, gold and platinum recording artist's motion picture and Emmy® award winning TV talent and productions, regional and Broadway theater talent and productions, literary authors and media talent. Following earlier years as a working musician, his legal career has been recognized for successful work with music artists. His commitment to artist advocacy and the legal profession have led him to national leadership positions including the Board of Trustees of the Recording Academy (presenters of the GRAMMY® Awards), Past National Chair of the American Bar Association Forum on the Entertainment and Sports Industries and other organizations. He was an adjunct professor of Entertainment law at William Mitchell College of Law, St. Paul, Minnesota for 11 years and is a co-author of the textbook "Law and Business of the Entertainment Industries" (Praeger Publishers). He was again selected to "Best Lawyers in America" in 2015 and to the *Billboard* list of Top 50 music "Super Lawyers."

## Panelists



**Todd Dupler**, Senior Director, Advocacy & Public Policy, The Recording Academy

Todd Dupler is the Senior Director, Advocacy & Public Policy for The Recording Academy, the organization internationally known for the annual GRAMMY Awards. In this role, Dupler works with Academy leadership to develop policy positions on issues affecting the music community, and represents the interests of the Academy's 24,000 members before Congress and federal agencies. In addition, he manages GRAMMYs on the Hill Advocacy Day and GRAMMYs in My District, the Academy's signature grassroots advocacy programs. Dupler also coordinates state and local advocacy with the Academy's 12 regional chapters.

With nearly two decades of experience in Washington, D.C., Todd Dupler has extensive knowledge of Capitol Hill and the legislative process. He previously served as legislative director for Rep. Lamar Smith during Smith's tenure as chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet and Intellectual Property. In this role, Dupler helped facilitate negotiations to reform copyright law and was a liaison to stakeholders in the creative industries

Dupler also served on the legislative staff for Rep. Kevin Brady and Sen. Phil Gramm. In addition, he was a Presidential appointee at the U.S. Department of Labor and also has experience in state government. Dupler received his J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center and his Bachelor of Arts degree in history and political science from Baylor University. He is a member of the State Bar of Texas.



**Joel Richard**, Legislative Counsel for Congressman Ted Deutch

Joel Richard is Legislative Assistant/Counsel to Congressman Ted Deutch (FL-21). Joel has covered a range of domestic policy issues for the congressman including intellectual property, health care, education, veterans' affairs, and Social Security. Prior to joining Congressman Deutch's staff in 2012, he worked as an attorney in the litigation practice of Mayer Brown LLP in New York. Joel is originally from Michigan. He graduated from Grand Valley State University in 2006, and received his law degree from The University of Michigan Law School in 2009.



**Dan Warner**, GRAMMY, Latin GRAMMY, and Emmy winning producer and guitarist

Dan Warner is an Emmy winning producer and guitarist who has won a GRAMMY and a Latin GRAMMY. He is a current Trustee of the Florida Chapter of The Recording Academy as well as a touring and session musician. Dan was born and raised in South Florida, attended the University of Miami School of Music and began his professional music career in 1992. He toured and performed with many Latin artists, including Ilan Chester, Raul DiBlasio, Cristian Castro, Celia Cruz, Jon Secada, Soraya, and Alexander Pires. He also did a six year stint with Spanish singer Julio Iglesias where he traveled to virtually every corner of the world and performed on TV programs such as The Tonight Show with Jay Leno and The Rosie O'Donnell Show. Dan has also performed with many English artists such as Kelly Clarkson, Willie Nelson, KC and The Sunshine Band, David Lee Roth, and Barry Gibb.

Dan has recorded many instructional Videos, DVD's, and CD's for Warner Brothers Publishing, including the Song Xpress series.

For more information, visit [bit.ly/on-the-record](http://bit.ly/on-the-record).