

## **Tonya M. Evans**

Professor of Law

technology | innovation | startups | entertainment | law  
ProfTonyaEvans.com | @IPProfEvans

### **CURRENT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**UNH FRANKLIN PIERCE SCHOOL OF LAW** *Professor of Law*  
July 2017-present

Concord, NH

Courses: Blockchain and the Law; Copyright; Fundamentals of Intellectual Property; Wills, Trusts & Estates; Entertainment Law; Technology, Innovation & Entrepreneurship (and related seminars), including significant scholarship and discourse related to the intellectual property and business implications of blockchain, distributed ledger technologies, and cryptocurrencies. Also willing to teach Federal Courts and Administrative Process.

Promotion & Tenure: Accepted position as Professor with tenure in 2017.

Recent Appointments: Associate Dean of Academic Affairs (2019-Present); Creator and Coordinator, Blockchain, Cryptocurrency & Law Professional Online Certificate Program (2018-present); Co-Chair, Academic Administration & Academic Affairs Committee (2019-Present); Chair, Intellectual Property and Technology Online Programs (2018-2019); Chair, Curriculum Committee (2018-19).

**WIDENER LAW COMMONWEALTH** *Assoc. Professor of Law*  
July 2008-June 2017

Harrisburg, PA

Courses: Property I and II; Copyright & Trademark Survey; Wills, Trusts and Estates; Intellectual Property; Entertainment Law (and related seminars).

Promotion & Tenure: Promoted to Associate in 2012. Received tenure in 2014.

Appointments: Associate Dean of Inclusion & Equity (2016-17); Faculty Advisor, *Widener Law Journal* (2013-2017); Chair, Faculty Social Media Engagement (2013-2017).

Visits: UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law (Wills, Trusts & Estates-Summer 2016).

**WIDENER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW** *Visiting Professor of Law*  
July 2007-June 2008

Harrisburg, PA

Course Package: Property I and II.

Taught an advanced survey of copyright as it relates to music licensing and music publishing. Students developed a comprehensive understanding of the historical contexts and real-life applications of various legal and ethical issues in the music industry related to copyright, music publishing and music licensing agreements, payment of performance and non-performance royalties and the terms of art in the music industry. In addition to the final exam, students presented multimedia presentations of current music copyright issues.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Law Review Articles

- 2019 *CryptoKitties, Cryptography, and Copyright*, 47:2 AMERICAN INTEL. PROP. L.ASSOC. (AIPLA) QUARTERLY J. 219 (2019).
- Introductions, Spring Symposium: Digital Art & Blockchain*, 37 CARDOZO ARTS & ENT. L. J. 1 (2019).
- Role of International Rules in Blockchain-Based Cross-border Commercial Disputes*, 65 WAYNE STATE L. REV. 1 (2019).
- 2017 *User “Safer Harbor” from Statutory Damages: Remixing the DOC’s IP Task Force White Paper*, 54 SAN DIEGO L. REV. 1 (2017).
- 2016 *Statutory Heirs Apparent?: Reclaiming Copyright in the Age of Author-Controlled, Author-Benefiting Transfers*, 119 W.V. LAW REV. 271 (2016).
- 2013 *Safe Harbor for the Innocent Infringer in the Digital Age*, 50 WILLAMETTE L. REV. 1 (2013). *Safe Harbor* was selected as one of the best law review articles related to entertainment, publishing and/or the arts published in the 2013-14 academic publishing cycle and selected for inclusion in the 2014 edition of the *Entertainment, Publishing and the Arts Handbook*, an anthology published annually by Thomson Reuters (West).
- 2013 *Reverse Engineering IP*, 17 MARQUETTE INTEL. PROP. L. REV. 61 (2013).
- 2011 *Sampling, Looping and Mashing ... Oh My! How Hip Hop Music is Scratching More Than the Surface of Copyright Law*, 21 FORDHAM INTEL. PROP. MEDIA & ENT. L.J. 843 (2011).
- 1998 Comment, *In the Title IX Race Toward Gender Equity, The Black Female Athlete is Left to Finish Last: The Lack of Access for the “Invisible Woman,”* 42 HOW. L.J. 105 (1998).

## Other Articles

- 2018 Tonya M. Evans, Yolanda D. King, and Shontavia J. Johnson, *Diversifying Intellectual Property Law: Why Women of Color Remain 'Invisible' and How to Provide More Seats at the Table*. Published by American Bar Association's Landslide Magazine (Vol. 10, Issue 4, Mar/Apr).
- 2018 Guest Expert Blog Post: *The Intellectual Property Implications of Blockchain Technology*. Darts-IP.com. (Feb. 27, 2018).
- 2015 Book chapter: "How Hip Hop Music is Scratching More Than the Surface of Copyright Law" in an anthology titled *Hip Hop and the Law: The Key Writings that Formed the Movement*. Published by Carolina Academic Press.
- 2010 Michael R. Dimino, Sr., Tonya M. Evans, and Nicole M. Santo. Introduction, Symposium, *Internet Expression in the 21st Century: Where Technology & Law Collide*, 19 *Widener L.J.* 789 (2010).
- Sept. 14, 2009 Op-Ed Essay titled *Free Access Equals a Free Ride*, published by *Wilmington News Journal* during its Annual Constitution Day coverage in association with Widener University School of Law's annual Constitution Day Program.
- Winter 2008 *A Call to Action: The Time Has Come to Revisit and Reform the Law of Ideas*, IP. L. Newsl. (PBA IP Law Section) Winter 2008 at 9.

## Books

- Forthcoming Chapter, *Oxford Handbook of Music Law and Policy* (Oxford Univ. Press) (re: blockchain and music use cases)
- The Gen Xers Guide to Upskilling in a Web 3.0 World* (e-book) and self-guided course
- 2015 Chapter, *Hip Hop and the Law* Anthology (Carolina Academic Press)
- 2007 *Contracts Companion for Writers* (Legal Write Publications)
- 2007 *Copyright Companion for Writers* (Legal Write Publications)
- 2005 *Literary Law Guide for Authors: Copyright, Trademark and Contracts in Plain Language* (Legal Write Publications)
- 2001 *SHINE: Inspirational Poetry* (Book/CD, FYOS Entertainment)
- 1999 *Seasons of Her: A Collection of Poetry* (FYOS Entertainment)

## **PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**TME LAW** *Managing Attorney*  
2003-2008

Philadelphia, PA

Handled a large caseload of individuals and businesses consisting primarily of entertainment law (literary, music and film), intellectual property (copyright and trademark), and estate planning matters, and served as counsel to issuers, conduits and underwriters in municipal finance matters for The City of Philadelphia and city-related agencies, as well as various colleges and universities.

**FYOS ENTERTAINMENT, LLC** *Owner and Co-Founder*  
July 1999-Present

Manchester, NH

Doing business as "Legal Write Publications," the company primarily publishes legal reference resources for writers and publishing industry professionals. Produces and sponsors a nationally recognized seminar series focused on book publishing and intellectual property protection. [www.legalwritepublications.com](http://www.legalwritepublications.com).

**EVANS & BORDEN EVANS, LLC** *Managing Attorney*  
January 2002-April 2003

Philadelphia, PA

Majority interest member who handled a large caseload that consisted primarily of entertainment law (literary, music and film), intellectual property (copyright and trademark), wills, trusts, estates, business law, and municipal finance matters. Managed all firm operations.

**PEPPER HAMILTON, LLP** *Associate in Personal Law Department*  
September 2000-January 2002

Philadelphia, PA

Worked in the wills, trusts and estate planning department. Assisted in the administration of estates, will and trust drafting, trust account review, filings with the Orphan's Court, and estate litigation. Focused on professional athletes and other high net-worth individuals.

**DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH, LLP** *Associate in Personal Law Dept.*  
September 1999-September 2000

Philadelphia, PA

Worked in the wills, trusts and estate planning department. Assisted in the administration of estates, will and trust drafting, trust account review, filings with the Orphan's Court, and estate litigation.

### **U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT**

**Judge Theodore McKee** *Law Clerk*  
September 1998-August 1999

Philadelphia, PA

Reviewed briefs, prepared bench briefs and drafted opinions on a variety of civil and criminal appellate issues. Attended sittings and mentored judicial interns.

## EDUCATION

**HOWARD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW**, Juris Doctor, May 9, 1998      Washington, D.C.  
**Class Rank:** 12/150

### **Honors:**

Howard Law Journal, Editor-in-Chief 1997-98  
Academic Merit Scholarship, 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98  
Trustee Scholarship, 1996-97, 1997-98  
Cali Award\*, Professional Responsibility, 1998  
Cali Award\*, (formerly the American Dean's Award), Legal Writing II, 1997  
Dean's Award\* (formerly the American Jurisprudence Award), Contracts, 1996  
American Jurisprudence Award\*, Legal Methods, 1995  
Who's Who: American Law Students, Spring 1998  
The National Dean's List, 1997

*\*Received highest grade in class*

### **Activities:**

Vice President, Class of 1998, 1995-96  
Entertainment Law Student Association, 1995-96  
National Bar Association, Member  
American Bar Association, Member  
Black Entertainment and Sports Lawyer's Association, Member

**NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY**, B.S. in Communications Studies, May, 1991      Evanston, IL

### **Honors:**

Dean's List, 1990-91  
Full Four-Year Athletic Scholarship, Tennis

### **Activities:**

Black Undergraduate Law and Business Students, Member  
Vice President, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Gamma Chi Chapter

## **MEMBERSHIPS, ASSOCIATIONS, CERTIFICATIONS & BAR ADMISSIONS**

Pennsylvania Bar Association ('04-'06 Vice-Chair, '06-'07 Co-Chair, '07-'08 Chair - Sports, Entertainment and Art Law Committee)

American Bar Association

American Intellectual Property Law Association (2009-Present)

### **Bar Admissions**

STATE:            Pennsylvania (1998)  
                      New Jersey (1998)  
                      District of Columbia (1999)  
                      New York (2006)

FEDERAL:       Eastern District of Pennsylvania (1999)  
                      The Third Circuit (1999)

## **COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS**

2020	Chairperson and Member, MakerDAO Ecosystem Governance Foundation Board
2020	Member, Emerging Impact Advisory Board
2019-present	Member, Bermuda Global Fintech Advisory Board
2019-present	Member, Consensys Grants Advisory Board
2019	Member, Consensys Grants Advisory Committee (January-March)
2018-2021	Member, United States Federal Claims Court Advisory Council (Intellectual Property Committee)
2018-present	Member, International Telecommunications Union Focus Groups on Digital Currency including Digital Fiat Currency, and Application of Distributed Ledger Technology
2013-Present	Founding Member, Pinkwellchick Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors (Chair, 2013-2019) (a 501(c)(3) breast cancer support, education and awareness foundation)