

# POWER LAWYERS 2016

## HOLLYWOOD'S TOP 100 ATTORNEYS

The feuds and financial stakes are bigger than ever as THR presents its annual list of the 100 top legal minds in Hollywood, who brokered Wanda's \$3.5 billion purchase of Legendary, helped Hulk Hogan smack down Gawker and took sides in the Kesha-Dr. Luke battle.

Each year for the past decade, The Hollywood Reporter has researched the bigger deals and lawsuits in the entertainment industry to determine the 100 most influential attorneys in Hollywood. From the talent dealmakers for everyone from Jennifer Lawrence to Steven Spielberg to the litigators going to war for Disney, Warner Bros. and even Charlie Sheen, *THR's* list has become the bible for who's who of legal minds in showbiz.

This year, the list features Hulk Hogan's Gawker slayers, the negotiators behind Wanda's \$3.5 billion purchase of Legendary Entertainment, both sides of the Kesha v. Dr. Luke mess, Sean Penn's pit bull (who is threatening to take a \$10 million bite out of *Empire* co-creator Lee Daniels) and slew of other attorneys who keep Hollywood running.



### Scott Edelman

*Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP*

#### ALMA MATER

UC Berkeley School of Law

#### WHY HE MATTERS

Edelman, a top studio-side litigator, spent much of the year preparing to defend NBC in a profit-participation suit brought by now-deceased Knight Rider producer Glen Larson (it settled at the eleventh hour). He's also representing Sony and Dr. Luke's record company, Kemosabe, in its explosive battle with Kesha, in which the pop star has accused the producer of sexual abuse.

#### MOST HOLLYWOOD THING ABOUT MY LIFE

"My kids' elementary school, the Center for Early Education. We just had our retirement gala for our head of school, and Beyonce performed, and it was emceed by Billy Crystal and Will Ferrell. It's that type of school."