

# POWER LAWYERS 2012

AMERICA'S **TOP 100** ENTERTAINMENT ATTORNEYS



## Scott Edelman

*Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP*

“It’s been the year of television,” says Edelman. He filed the high-profile CBS case alleging ABC’s *Glass House* is a ripoff of *Big Brother* (a judge denied a temporary restraining order, but the case is still pending), and he successfully defended a stolen-idea case brought

against FX and *Sons of Anarchy* creator Kurt Sutter by biker Chuck Zito. “He’s actually very charming,” says Edelman of Zito. “There’s a reason they call him Charming Chuck.” He’s repping CBS against *NCIS* creator Don Bellisario over profits from *NCIS: Los Angeles* and Fox in a case brought by *American Idol* creator Simon Fuller over his claim on profits from *The X Factor*. And he’s got an October trial date in a profits case for Warner Bros. against the creators of *Smallville*.

➔ **Most satisfying career moment** “I had to cross-examine a witness who doubled-crossed me. He led me to believe he was on our side prior to the trial, but when he was called to the stand by the other side, it became clear within 30 seconds that he was out to nail us. I had to ditch my direct exam outline and cross him on the spot. He had completely betrayed me, and by the end of my cross, the jury understood that. They came back in our favor for \$120 million.”