

# Entertainment Law Mentor - Negotiating Exclusive Songwriting Agreements

*C. Stephen Weaver*

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**C. Stephen Weaver : Entertainment Law Mentor - Negotiating Exclusive Songwriting Agreements** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Entertainment Law Mentor - Negotiating Exclusive Songwriting Agreements:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic book. I purchased other books that claimed to ...By JPWFantastic book. I purchased other books that claimed to break down music contract clauses, but this book, despite

only covering an exclusive songwriter agreement, was far superior to those other books. Mr. Weaver breaks each clause down into basic English, then tells you what it actually means, and then analyzes what a writer would want, and what a publisher would want. For those who haven't been negotiating these contracts for years, this book is so very instrumental in making up for that. My only wish is that Mr. Weaver covered a greater variety of contracts. Definitely recommend. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The perfect reference book for entertainment law

By Karen Singleton  
When I came to Nashville in the mid 70's I had no idea of the songwriter and publishing contracts that I would be getting involved in. Luckily for me, I was running with, and dealing with songwriters and publishers that were honest and cared whether or not my interests were being protected when signing these contracts. That's not always the case for everyone that comes to Nashville. After reading *Entertainment Law Mentor* by C. Stephen Weaver I know I have found the perfect reference book for these contract situations. Weaver makes it plain and simple for anyone to understand the legal jargon of these contracts. This book explains all the how's and whys, and questions you are bound to have when negotiating songwriter and publishing deals. Wish I had this book when I first came to Nashville.

Delta Don Singleton. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great Read For Any Songwriter, Publisher or Aspiring Entertainment Attorney

By auche2002  
As a songwriter, publisher, law student or aspiring entertainment attorney, do you need guidance negotiating and drafting an exclusive songwriting agreement? If so, C. Stephen Weaver's *Negotiating Exclusive Songwriting Agreements* must be on your bookshelf or in your desk drawer. Whether you are looking in a textbook or researching online, you will not find a more comprehensive breakdown of an exclusive songwriting agreement. Drawing from his 30 years of experience as an entertainment attorney, Weaver does a masterful job of detailing agreement necessities from the perspectives of both the songwriter and publisher. Best of all, Weaver explains all key aspects of an exclusive songwriting agreement in terms that anyone can understand and he makes sense of legal jargon that inevitably clouds most agreements.

A detailed how to book about negotiating the large print, the fine print, and everything in between which is commonly found in exclusive songwriting agreements. Steve Weaver presents a template exclusive songwriting agreement and then explains what each paragraph of the agreement means (even translating it into plain English) and he then proceeds to list, analyze and discuss important considerations and suggested negotiation points, solutions and language from both the perspective of the songwriter and the music publisher. The author has spent over 30 years as an entertainment attorney, consultant, speaker and educator. He has represented and currently represents hall of fame and hall of fame bound songwriters, music publishers, record labels, producers, recording artists and other individuals and companies in the music industry. What he has learned about negotiation of exclusive songwriting agreements is shared in this book.

From the Back Cover "A thorough and informative guide to understanding and negotiation of the essential provisions of a songwriter agreement." ---- Duff Berschbach, Esq., Senior Vice President, Business Affairs, Nashville, Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC There are lots of books on the music business. Most of them are worthless. Steve Weaver's book on negotiating publishing agreements is priceless. This is a step by step guide that can be used by songwriters, publishers and attorneys. I wish this book had been around when I started practicing law." ---- Sawnie "Trip" Aldredge, Esq., Entertainment Attorney, Nashville Tennessee "Steve, what a great gift to those who are trying to decipher the convoluted world of music publishing!. This book will be one of those 'must haves' for people wanting to learn how we get to a fair resolution of a publishing contract." ---- Tim Wiperman, CEO Wiperman Music Group (Former Executive VP/Executive GM, Warner Chappell Music (29 years); Former Chief Creative Officer and President, Equity Music Group) Steve knows what items are important, and is one of those very few attorneys who always manages to cover both the short term desires and the long term needs of his clients. I wish this book had been available at the beginning of my career." ---- Joseph F. Brazil, Esq., Law Offices of Joseph Brazil PLLC (Former In-House Lawyer and V.P. of Business Affairs for Major Record Label and Music Publisher)

About the Author Steve Weaver, a solo practitioner of entertainment and intellectual property law since 1980, received his Juris Doctor degree in 1977 from the Cecil C. Humphreys law school at the University of Memphis, where he served on the Editorial Board of the Law . Steve began his entertainment law career in Atlanta, Georgia serving as an assistant professor and the Director of the Commercial Music/Recording Program at Georgia State University for three years. He then joined the Atlanta entertainment law firm headed by Joel Katz where he represented entertainment industry clientele until 1982. After returning to his hometown of Memphis in 1983, Steve began his private practice in the entertainment field and opened a second office in Nashville in 1993. The entire firm was relocated to Nashville in 1995. Current clients include songwriters, publishers, recording artists, artist managers, record labels and filmmakers in the country, pop, rock and Christian music fields. He is licensed by the State Bars of Tennessee and Georgia. Steve is a member of the Recording Academy, the Tennessee Bar Association, the Nashville Bar Association, the American Bar Association, the Nashville Songwriters Association International, the Copyright Society of the South, the Country Music Association and the Academy of County Music. Steves website is <http://musicrowlawyer.com> and his blogs are

<http://musicrowlawyer.typepad.com> and <http://www.soloentertainmentlawyer.com>.