



V L G I N F O C U S

New Office: Los Angeles, CA

We're excited to announce that we've opened a new office in Los Angeles, CA. This office will be lead by one of the new additions to the team, Taylor Vernon, of counsel. Taylor is a graduate of the UCLA School of Law and member of the State Bar of California, as well as the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and the United States District Court of the Central District of California.

Taylor's practice focuses on corporate transactional law, generally, and specifically, franchising, licensing, leisure, hospitality, and government compliance. Along with new addition Susan Bruning, of counsel, who brings years of experience in entertainment law, the LA office will also serve the entertainment sector. Contact the LA office at:

2934 1/2 Beverly Glen Circle
Suite 394
Bel Air (Los Angeles), CA 90077
Tel: 310-295-2016 Fax: 310-295-2071

[More Details](#)

2011 Review, 2012 Projections

International: 2011 was filled with challenges for clients trying to deal with international ventures in the Middle East and the "Arab Spring." VLG has helped guide several clients as they work through those volatile times. No one knows what the future holds, but having well-drafted documents can make all the difference in a successful long time venture.

International Trade: International trade compliance saw heightened activity from government investigations in most trade sections. VLG assisted numerous software and manufacturing companies in training their executives and upper management in the intricacies of trade compliance, as deemed exports continue to plaque many software and technology firms. VLG advised global franchising clients to start with international trade compliance manuals and constant training of staff. It is much cheaper than the alternatives, namely a customs assessment.

Entertainment: Susan Bruning joined us in the last quarter of 2011 and was quite busy drafting and negotiating licensing agreements for upcoming documentary films. In addition, she and her assistant, Kelly Simpson, worked with several Native American Tribes to protect their art and music productions.



Litigation: Litigation and arbitrations for franchise clients residing both in and outside of Texas, together with a smattering of other commercial disputes, kept Sheree McCall and Bob Candee busy for most of the year. From the increased activity level at year-end, 2012 shows no signs of lessening.

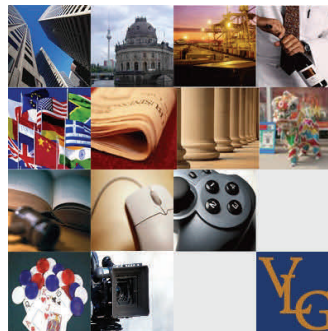
Franchising: Park City and Dallas were a "hotbed" of new franchise development in 2011. Perhaps, it is a positive sign that the economy is getting better in Utah and Texas. Franchising seems to be a more resilient business model in a poor economy than other industries. Hopefully, we will see this kind of activity in other sections in 2012.

Bar Activities: Dubai was John Vernon's last conference as chair of the Leisure Industries Committee in the International Bar Association (IBA). Just as he thought he was out, the IBA brought him back into their newly formed Electronic Entertainment and Online Gaming Subcommittee. He is now scrambling to prepare his program for Dublin 2012. He has tentatively arranged to have a "black hat" hacker debate a member of an online gaming company in a winner-take-all session. More information will be provided as the program develops, so make plans to join him in Dublin for the IBA conference in Late September.

If you are interested in learning more about our legal services, don't hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes for a prosperous 2012 from your friends at VLG.

Volume 1, issue 1, Feb. 2012



**Newsletter Spotlight:
Meet Our New Attorneys**

Susan Bruning, *Of Counsel*
[Read about Susan here](#)
Taylor Vernon, *Of Counsel*
[Read about Taylor here](#)