



## Laura L. McDonald

Of Counsel

Memphis | 901.577.2224 | [lmcdonald@bakerdonelson.com](mailto:lmcdonald@bakerdonelson.com)

Nashville | 615.726.5600

With a background in media, entertainment and intellectual property, Laura Layton McDonald brings a unique perspective to her growing franchise, distribution, and hospitality practice.

Ms. McDonald represents clients in the franchise, distribution, and hospitality industries in mergers and acquisitions, due diligence, and regulatory compliance. She also assists private equity clients with corporate work, including negotiating and drafting purchase agreements and reviewing commercial contracts.

Ms. McDonald previously gained valuable experience at an AmLaw 100 law firm and as in-house counsel for a global media company, where she handled risk assessment and provided copyright and fair-use analysis. In addition to drafting myriad digital, international, and trademark licensing agreements and television and publishing agreements, she managed litigation and outside counsel.



### Representative Matters

- Represented prospective wireless licensee purchasing approximately \$10 billion of Advanced Wireless Services spectrum in the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Auction 97, including filing short-form and long-form applications, challenging eight Petitions to Deny the long-form application in the Wireless Bureau, and filing an appellate brief in the D.C. Circuit contesting FCC Memorandum Opinion and Order to deny small business credits.
- Conducted FCC due diligence for broadcast station acquisitions and a digital media company's initial public offering of stock of \$92 million.
- Negotiated and drafted wholesale agreement for communications and Internet services for a Canadian multinational investment bank.
- Negotiated and drafted radio program agreement and radio talent contract for a New York-based company.



### Publications

- "Biden Administration Plans on Resort Fee Crackdown" (December 2022)



### Speaking Engagements

- "Nashville Franchise Business Network Lunch" (June 2025)



### Education

- Georgetown University Law Center, J.D., 2012
  - Executive Articles Editor, *Georgetown Journal of Law & Modern Critical Race*
- Vanderbilt University, B.A., 2008, magna cum laude



### Admissions

- Tennessee, 2012
- District of Columbia, 2013