

### Trademark, Copyright, and Sweepstakes Basics

Legal Considerations for Marketing, Branding, and Promotions



#### Presenter



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- Practice focuses on intellectual property and advertising litigation and transactions.
- Represents consumer marketing companies—from small start-ups to some of the best-known brands in America—in delivering practical solutions to problems.
- Works as a professional musician and has a recording studio in his home basement.

#### **Building Your Brand**

Meet the Definitions

Interaction with Consumers

Interaction with Other Brands

#### **Building Your Brand**



#### What Brands Want . . .

## Consumer Interaction

#### Giveaways



Sweepstakes

Contests

Sweepstakes

Game of Chance

Contests

Game of Skill

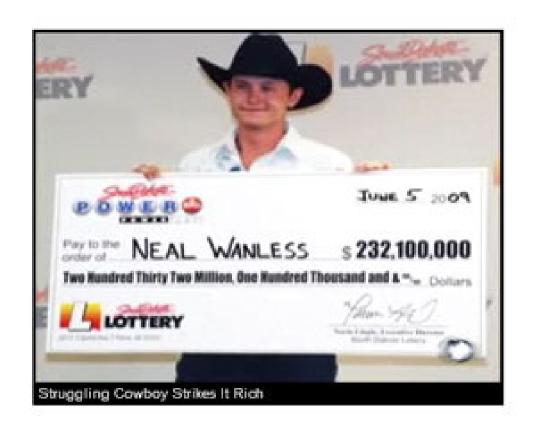
#### Lottery

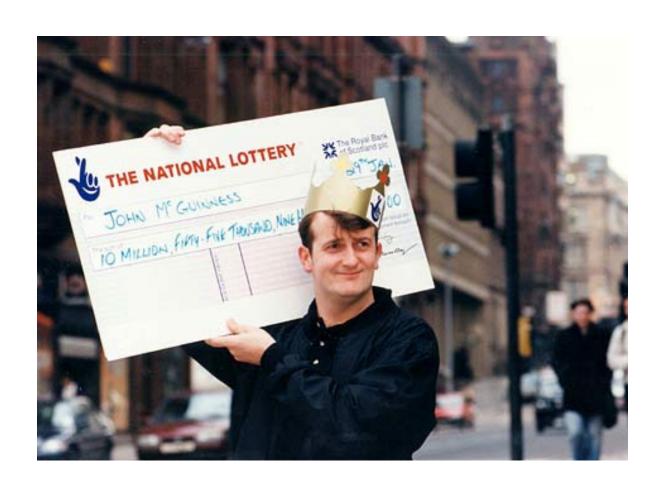
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

"Lottery ticket" redirects here. For the film, see Lottery Ticket (film). For other uses, see Lottery (disambiguation).

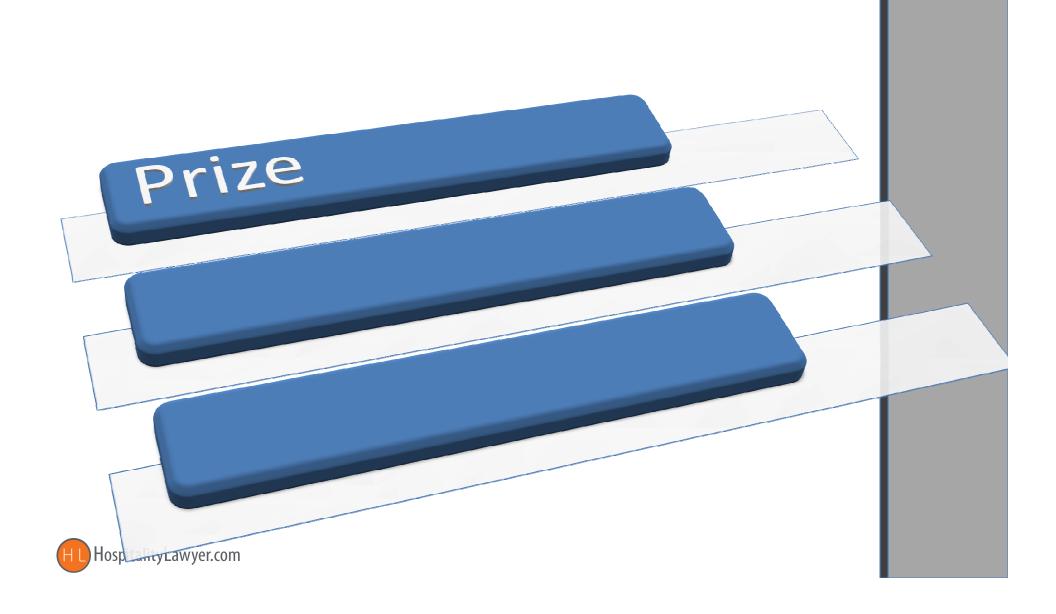
A **lottery** is a form of gambling which involves the drawing of lots for a prize.













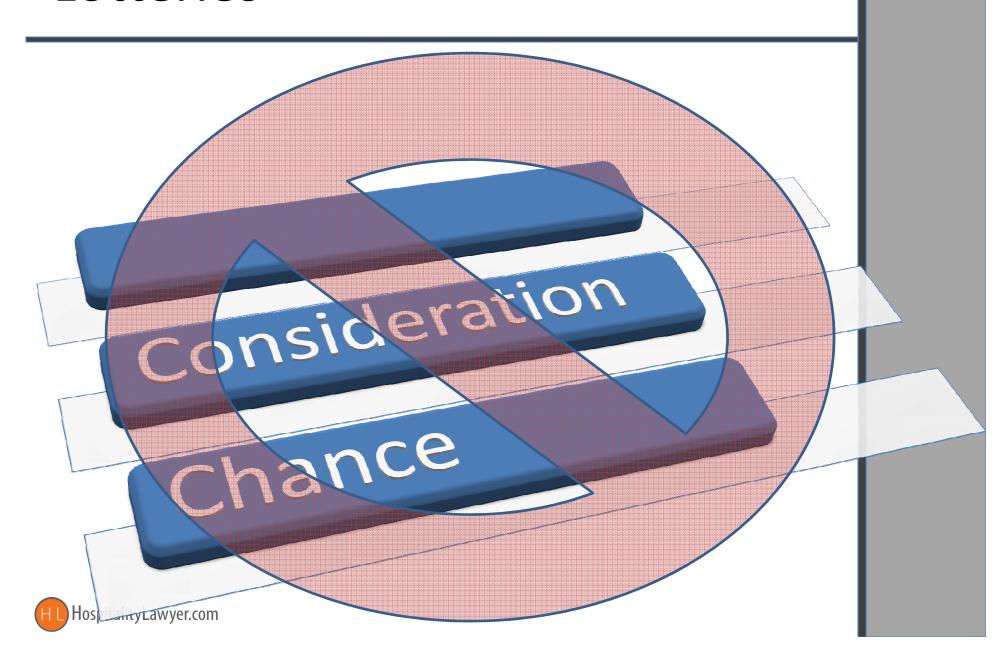


You are not allowed to run a lottery.



## Remove an element.









#### Sweepstakes—Free Entry

- Equal Dignity Rule
- •Consideration is a benefit/detriment:
  - Store visits (Ohio)
  - Attendance at drawing (lowa)
  - Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope (Vermont)

## Consumer Interaction





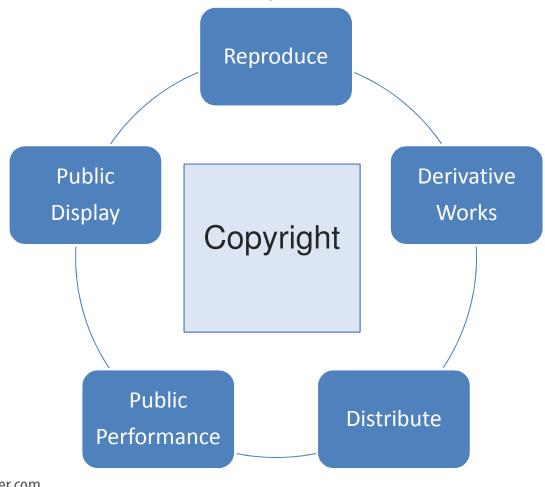


- •lssues:
  - •Who owns the content?
  - •How much do you take?
  - •Who is judging the content (for a contest)?

#### Ownership Issues:



•How much do you take?





- •Who is Judging?
  - Qualified judges
    - •Public vote?
  - Clear criteria





#### General Guidelines:

- No entry for those under 18.
- •Entry must be free.
- •Provide appropriate releases for Facebook.
- •Watch out for international competitions.

# IT'S ALL ABOUT THE APPLICATIONS.

#### You cannot:

Notify winners through Facebook, such as through Facebook messages, chat, or posts on profiles or Pages.

#### You can:

Collect an email or address through the third-party application for the promotion.

#### You cannot:

Condition entry in the promotion upon a user providing content on Facebook.

#### You can:

Use a third-party application to condition entry to the promotion upon a user providing content.

#### You cannot:

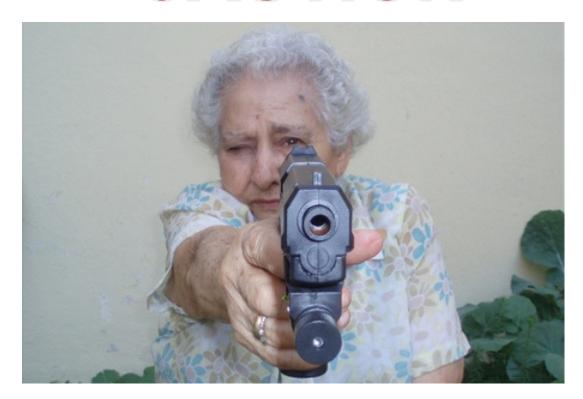
Instruct people to sign up for a Facebook account before they enter the promotion.

#### You can:

Instruct users to visit the third-party application to enter the promotion.

# Interacting with Other Brands

#### **CAUTION**



- Clearance Trademark
   Searches for Promotion Name
   and Tag Lines
- Disclaimers for Branded Prizes
- Big Problems with Big Promotions

### Likelihood of Consumer Confusion?

- (1) The strength of plaintiff's mark;
- (2) The similarity of the parties' marks;
- (3) The similarity of the parties' products;
- (4) The marketing channels for the parties' products;
- (5) The likelihood of expansion of the product lines;
- (6) Actual consumer confusion between the two marks;
- (7) The defendant's intent in adopting its mark; and
- (8) Likelihood of expansion of the product lines.



"The heart of the matter is that Coors has unfairly used the association's marks for its own promotions and as prizes for its promotions and has traded on the good name of the NCAA," he said.

#### **Promotions**

#### Meet the Definitions

- Sweepstakes—Consideration Issues
- Contests—Judges and Criteria Issues
- Interaction with Consumers
  - Know the rules for the type of promotion.
  - Know the special rules of the forum.
  - Be aware of what you are taking from promotion participants if using UGC.
- Interaction with Other Brands—Be aware of limitations when interacting with other brands.