The Movie Business: The Definitive Guide to the Legal and Financial Secrets of Getting Your Movie Made by Kelly Crabb

Serious Filmmakers: Add This Book To Your Shelf!

Making a movie may be part art and part science, but its 100 percent business. In this comprehensive and accessible guide, Kelly Charles Crabb shares the information necessary to understand the legal and financial challenges involved in getting a film from story to the silver screen and beyond. Drawing on over twenty years of experience in the entertainment industry, as both lawyer and producer, Crabb reveals his insider knowledge on:

- Understanding copyright and intellectual property law
- Obtaining financial backing
- Selecting and hiring the key players
- Overseeing the filming
- Locking in the theatrical, home video, and TV distribution
- Understanding merchandise licensing
- And everything else you need to know to make a serious run at producing and exploiting a movie. Offering hands-on illustrations from actual movie contracts to show how the basic deals for each of the many stages are assembled, the author explains in plain and simple terms what the contracts contain and why. It gives the big picture and the finer points of movie making -- from concept to raking in the last dollar after the film is completed. While it may not transform you into a lawyer or an industry accountant -- and that's not what you want anyway -- it will take you through all the business and legal principles you need to know to be a successful and knowledgeable professional producer.

My Personal Review:

If you ever have to negotiate with distributors, this book is a great starting point. In fact, it may be the only book you end up using. Crabb details exactly where and how distributors like to stick it to filmmakers, and how to protect yourself the best you can. It needs to be updated with regards to VOD rights for cable, satellite, the Internet, etc., but concerning other distribution matters, the book is still top notch. In addition to handling
distribution contracts, transactional matters relating to development and production are also covered. This book is a must for every filmmaker's shelf!

Jeremy Juuso
Author
GETTING THE MONEY: A Step-by-Step Guide for Writing Business Plans for Film

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