

HOLLYWOOD LAW: UP NEXT THE BEST AND THE BRIGHTEST



CHRISTOPHER SPICER

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In four years as counsel for Akin Gump, Spicer has already played a major role in some high-visibility deals between independent movie production companies and financial institutions. In 2008 he represented Comerica Bank in negotiations for single-picture loans with Summit Entertainment in connection with “The Twilight Saga,” among other films. Two years later he helped negotiate Comerica’s backing of several Lionsgate-produced Tyler Perry pics. Though Spicer says that representing Goldman Sachs and Assured Guaranty in the re-structuring of the Weinstein Co. is professionally one of the most fascinating transactions he has worked on, he counts his representation of Media Rights Capital in the negotiation and documentation of a \$350 million credit facility with J.P. Morgan as his biggest accomplishment to date. The relationship is ongoing as his firm shepherds every MRC project through the facility. Spicer, who started his career in real estate finance, attributes his success to being thrown into the deep end from the moment he began practicing. “Two of my colleagues happened to go on maternity leave when I started. I was brand new and the only associate in the firm. It was sink or swim. If you work like that you learn quickly.”

- Carita Rizzo