Calabrese is a longtime leader in the area of major entertainment and sports deals. Besides helping the Hollywood Foreign Press Assn. settle TV rights litigation and Legendary Entertainment buy TV outfit Asylum Entertainment, he repped the Arizona Diamondbacks and Anaheim Ducks in separate regional sports channel pacts. Further, he advises longtime client the Intl. Olympics Committee for its global OTT video service, starting with navigating broadcast TV deals in clearing content. He notes that “we needed to do a survey of a number of key territories to assess what regulations requirement would be imposed in launching a channel.”

Brearton finds that his TV and digital work is mushrooming. He’s outside counsel for DreamWorks Animation, the Intl. Olympic Committee and MGM. The latter bought a majority stake in Mark Burnett’s TV program business. As part of his expanding overseas practice, Brearton also represented Chinese onliner Tencent in a multi-year deal for digital TV rights to the NBA. “For a major content rights owner like the NBA to do a multiyear license of premiere programming across mainland China for digital that is untethered from the broadcast rights is a watershed transaction,” he notes.