

Billboard, Backstage Pass/Top Music Lawyers  
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**PETER PATERNO**, 64  
Partner  
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"You're only as powerful as your clients," says the notoriously press-shy Paterno, who has represented Dr. Dre and Metallica for decades and credits his career breakthrough to taking on Guns N' Roses in the 1980s. "I went from being a service lawyer to representing one of the biggest bands in the world - they got huge, and I became talented," he jokes. In fact, the seduction of this Los Angeles native by the music business goes back even further, to The Doors' infamous show at the Hollywood Bowl in 1968, which Paterno attended as a teen "I was even at Altamont-that was an interesting experience," he deadpans. These days, it's clients like Pharrell Williams and Iggy Azalea that keep his busy - not to mention the 2014 sale of Beats to Apple for a reported \$3.2 billion.

**REASON TO BOAST** "Working with Dr. Dre in connection with all the deals he's been involved in has been very gratifying," he says.