

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**DONALDSON + CALLIF ELEVATES  
DEAN R. CHELEY AND CHRISTOPHER L. PEREZ TO PARTNER**

*-- New partners underscore success and growth of firm --*

**LOS ANGELES, CA** – [Donaldson + Callif](#), a Los Angeles-based law firm representing independent producers of film, television and web-based content, has elevated [Dean R. Cheley](#) and [Christopher L. Perez](#) as Partners.

“Dean and Chris have become an integral part of the firm’s success, as well as the success of our clients,” said Partner [Michael C. Donaldson](#), Partner of Donaldson + Callif. “They are true leaders in their field and we are enthused to announce them as partners.”

**Mr. Cheley** focuses his practice on structuring deals and negotiating contracts for individuals and corporations involved in the film and television industry. He regularly works with book authors, screen writers, performers, directors and producers, as well as institutions, such as studios, networks, guilds and talent agencies. Mr. Cheley has worked as legal counsel for several groundbreaking documentaries including *Blackfish* and *20 Feet from Stardom*. He received his Juris Doctor from the University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law, where he was awarded the American Jurisprudence Award.

**Mr. Perez** represents independent filmmakers through financing, production, distribution and clearance work. He also performs clearance work for independent filmmakers and assists in the firm’s theatre practice. Mr. Perez has also contributed to several of the firm’s advocacy projects, including co-drafting an amicus brief on behalf of documentary filmmaker Joe Berlinger in *Chevron Corp. v. Berlinger* in the Second Circuit. He received his Juris Doctor from the University of Southern California, Gould School of Law.

“I’ve been working with Dean and Chris for more than five years now and I can’t imagine practicing law without them,” said Partner [Lisa Callif](#). The decision to promote them to partner was easy as they are not only terrific lawyers, but help personify the culture of our firm.”

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*Donaldson + Callif is a Los Angeles-based law firm that specializes in representing independent producers of film, television and web-based content. They focus on financing, production and distribution, but are also renowned for their clearance and intellectual property work, especially in the area of fair use. The firm published a book on [Clearance & Copyright 4<sup>th</sup> Edition](#) a legalese-free guide providing filmmakers with essential advice on almost every conceivable rights issue they might encounter.*

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