



Michael Lucien Baroni

General Counsel



If “all the world’s a playground,” then Michael Baroni is on top of the world.

Baroni is General Counsel for Palace Entertainment, the world’s fourth largest amusement park company. Locally, Palace owns and operates the Boomers! family-entertainment facilities in Irvine and Fountain Valley, Raging Waters, L.A. SpeedZone, and Castle Park in Riverside, which debuted a new water play structure this summer, “Buccaneer Cove.”

“Nothing could be more exciting and rewarding than representing a company that is all about family fun and creating special memories,” says Baroni, whose own office is adorned with whimsical flair, such as a sculpture of a seagull balancing on a beach ball and an

“Aloha” surfboard plaque (acquired from Palace’s Sea Life park in Hawaii, where guests can swim with dolphins).

Serving as sole legal counsel to a company with 13,000 employees and 40 amusement parks across the country is serious business. Baroni handles an avalanche of every conceivable legal issue, from a half-billion dollar refinancing deal to negotiating deals for TV and movies to film at the parks.

But “above all,” Baroni declares, “safety is the #1 concern and an absolute mandate throughout the company.”

That’s why nothing riles up Baroni more than a baseless claim. “If someone claims a slip-and-fall injury, but we uncover that it was a failed attempt to

leap over a park bench, I will fight that all the way.”

Baroni is thrilled with Palace’s team-oriented approach and steady growth. Last year he handled the acquisition of Dutch Wonderland in Pennsylvania, and adds, “We always have our sights on other properties.”

He also loves the constant innovation and upgrades that Palace brings to its parks, highlighting Palace’s massive reinvestments every year.

“As kids, we all loved toys,” he says. “Now I negotiate buying multi-million-dollar roller-coasters. How cool is that?” ■

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