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## WEARABLE TECHNOLOGY IN THE WORKPLACE

## MODEL GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

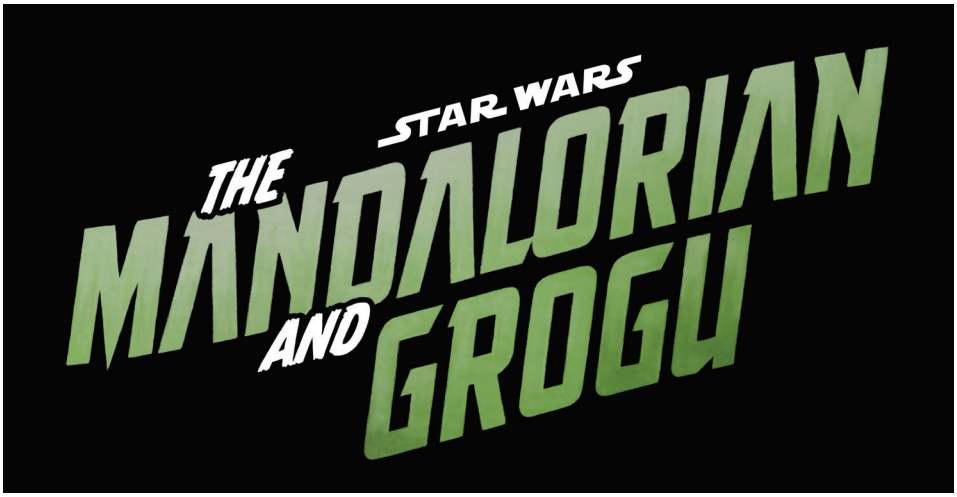
## CROSSING THE RUBICON

What the Proposed Rewrite of Uniform Guidance Means

MOVIE REVIEW

# Is That Legal?

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*Still from Lucasfilm's THE MANDALORIAN & GROGU. Photo courtesy of Lucasfilm. © 2025 Lucasfilm Ltd™*

The *Mandalorian and Grogu* is Disney's latest Star Wars movie. After the *Solo: A Star Wars Story* misfired and people raged about the sequel trilogy, Disney dialed back its Star Wars releases and focused on shows for its Disney+ streaming platform with varying degrees of success. As a result, *The Mandalorian and Grogu* is a theatrical release based on characters from a show you need a subscription to watch. Thankfully,




*...where the bounty hunter statute "operates to provide(s)... a shield from criminal or civil liability for ... trespass. It does not... negate the bounty hunter's status as a trespasser or licensee... one cannot assert a privilege as both a shield and a sword.*

you can enjoy this movie without having seen the show or keeping up with the increasingly complicated Star Wars timeline, which is full of prequels, sequels, and projects jammed in between everything else. What you need to know: the Mandalorian (Pedro Pascal) is a bounty hunter (who looks a lot like classic character Boba Fett), and Grogu is a baby Yoda with some force powers.[1]

*The Mandalorian and Grogu* don't bring anything revolutionary to Star Wars, but it effectively incorporates easter eggs and characters from other Star Wars projects. This makes it feel like an authentic part of the universe without requiring you to have seen anything to understand what is going on. For example, having grown up on *The Return of the Jedi* (1983), seeing more of the Hutts was awesome, but you don't need to know who Jabba is to enjoy the movie.

There isn't much to the plot, but the movie is fun. There are some neat set pieces and action sequences that make this worth seeing on a big screen. With one notable exception, I had less CGI overload than prior Star Wars movies. Grogu appears to be more animatronic than CGI, and he's adorable. Babu Frik and his crew of mini mechanic dudes were also scene stealers. Aside from those characters, the creatures in this movie tend to be more menacing than cute, so take that into account if you are watching with younger children.

If you like the original Star Wars movies but haven't been into the new stuff, there's a good chance you will enjoy *The Mandalorian and Grogu*. In between fight scenes, I found myself pondering the legalities of bounty hunting, so I researched tips for the Mandalorian (also known as Mando) if he relocates to America from a galaxy far, far away.

## Is The Mandalorian technically bounty hunting?

Bounty hunting is typically defined as the practice of tracking down someone who failed to appear in court.[2] Mando may need to shift his business model if he comes to America, because his bounties - former members of The Empire – are not related to court appearances. They are just bad guys the New Republic[3] wants to question.

## Can The Mandalorian pursue his targets across state lines?

In the movie, Mando travels to different planets to track down his targets. Way back in 1872,[4] the Supreme Court found that bounty hunters may pursue bail jumpers across state lines.[5] With that said, Mando must adhere to state licensing requirements. For example, people "seeking to conduct the business of bounty hunting in [New Jersey] must be licensed by the Superintendent of [the New Jersey State Police]"[6] In Virginia, it is a Class 1 misdemeanor to engage in bail bonding for profit without a valid license.[7] In contrast, Montana does not require a license to engage in bounty hunting, so the Mandalorian would be free to ply his trade there.[8]

## Is the Mandalorian allowed to break the law to get his target?

Many of Mando's missions get "messy" – stuff ends up blown up, and people end up dead. In addition to complying with licensing requirements, Mando must comply with the laws of the state in which he operates.[9] Put another way, there is no shield for bondsmen for violations

of the law they commit while apprehending bail jumpers, so Mando will want to keep the destruction to a minimum.

California has an additional requirement for foreign bondsmen. Prior to removing someone from the state, a bondsman must appear before a magistrate and get an arrest warrant. Then, after the arrests, there is an additional evidentiary hearing before the magistrate with the fugitive present.[10]

## Can the Mandalorian sue a property owner if he gets bitten by their dog?

Bounty hunting can be dangerous, and (minor spoiler) Mando gets bitten by one of the creatures he tangles with. Many states have a strict liability dog bite statute.[11] Unfortunately for Mando, a strict liability argument would not work in Ohio, where the bounty hunter statute[12] "operates to provide a privilege to a bounty hunter as a shield from criminal or civil liability for a criminal or civil trespass. It does not, however, operate to negate the bounty hunter's status as a trespasser or licensee as a means to give the bounty hunter an advantage in the pursuit of recovering money damages. Such an allowance would be contrary to well-established Ohio law—one cannot assert a privilege as both a shield and a sword.[13] As a result, at least in Ohio, the Mandalorian could not recover if he is bitten by a dog (or other creature) while bounty hunting.

## Would evidence be admissible?

If the Mandalorian finds contraband when he catches someone, would that be admissible evidence? In *Commonwealth v. Elmobdy*, bail bondsmen recovered drugs when they apprehended their target.[14] The court held that "bondsmen acting to retrieve a suspect who has violated bail are not public officials or state agents" and as such, declined to suppress the evidence they uncovered.[15] With that said, this may depend on who hires the Mandalorian. In Elmobdy the bounty hunters were acting to avoid losing the bail bond that was posted on the person's behalf. As such, the apprehension was undertaken on their own initiative and for their own purposes, and therefore was not state action. The fact that The New Republic[16] hires Mando to catch people could change this analysis.

Ultimately, Mando would need to change how he operates to relocate his business to America. While taking on different jobs, working on getting licensed, and reducing the carnage he leaves in his wake would improve legal compliance, it would make for a less entertaining movie.

## Score:

A- for exceeding expectations. ML

**Darren Shulman** is the city attorney for Upper Arlington, Ohio. A graduate of Northwestern University and Harvard Law School, Darren previously served as the City Attorney for Delaware Ohio, Associate Legal Counsel for the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, and as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for the Montgomery County Prosecutor's Office. When Darren was the Delaware City Attorney, he co-hosted a movie review show called *Through the Lens* on local radio, which is now a podcast. Writing movie reviews through a legal lens allows Darren to combine his love of movies with his profession.

## Notes:

1. Before we learned his name, everyone just called Grogu "Baby Yoda."
2. *See* N.J. Admin. Code § 13:55B-1.3; Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 2713.22; La. Admin. Code tit. 37, pt. XIII, § 4903.
3. Mando gets his missions from a character played by Sigourney Weaver, adding *Star Wars* to the list of epic franchises she has appeared in, including but not limited to, *Alien*, *Avatar*, and *Ghostbusters*. She also appeared in Marvel's Netflix series *The Defenders*.
4. This is fitting given the classic *Star Wars* introduction: "A long time ago ...." *Star Wars: Episode IV—A New Hope* (Lucasfilm Ltd. 1977).
5. *Taylor v. Taintor*, 16 Wall. 366, 83 U.S. 366, 371, 21 L.Ed. 287 (1872) (explaining that a bounty hunter may pursue a principal into another state and break into his home in order to apprehend the principal).
6. *Said v. N.J. State Police*, No. A-1620-23, 2026 WL 1205590, at *5 (N.J. Super. Ct. App. Div. May 4, 2026). *See also* Fla. Stat. §648.30.
7. Va. Code Ann. §9.1-185.18.
8. *Mitchell v. First Call Bail & Sur., Inc.*, 412 F. Supp. 3d 1208, 1214 (D. Mont. 2019)("Montana law allows commercial bond sureties to arrest and surrender those who have failed to appear in court. Mont. Code Ann. § 46–9–510. Montana otherwise does not impose a license requirement or regulate the practice of bounty hunting.").
9. *Lund v. Seneca Cnty. Sheriff's Dep't*, 230 F.3d 196, 198 (6th Cir. 2000)( "The bondsman may be authorized under the law of the state where a bond is made to retrieve bail jumpers, but he must abide by the law of the state he enters to pursue his fugitive. Federal constitutional law does not preempt state law or immunize bondsmen from violations of local law. Plaintiffs' argument that "the bondsman is basically permitted to break the [local] law to rearrest his fugitive" is simply wrong.)
10. Cal. Penal § 847.5.
11. *See e.g.*, Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 955.38(B); Ind. Code § 15-20-1-3; Wash. Rev. Code § 16.08.040, N.J. Stat. Ann. § 4:19-16.
12. Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 2713.22
13. *Mota v. Gruszczynski*, 2012-Ohio-275, ¶ 18, 197 Ohio App. 3d 750, 756, 968 N.E.2d 631, 636.
14. *Commonwealth v. Elmobdy*, 823 A.2d 180, 183 (Pa. Super. Ct. 2003).
15. *Id.* at 186.
16. Basically the government that the rebels set up after defeating the empire. Not to be confused with *The New Republic Magazine*, which, to the best of my knowledge, does not hire intergalactic bounty hunters.