

**From:** Todd Fogdall <Tfog[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 7, 2019 8:33 AM  
**To:** ATR-LitIII-Information (ATR) <ATR.LitIII.Information@ATR.USDOJ.gov>  
**Subject:** ASCAP and BMI Consent Decrees

I am imploring the Department of Justice to retain the Consent Decrees for Performance Rights Organizations such as ASCAP and BMI. The current decrees ensure that anyone who wants to play music or host concerts can get a license – i.e. it helps artists and musicians get their music out. The decrees also ensure that all venues pay standardized fees and eliminate risk of PRO's cutting special deals or even cutting off music venues and presenters.

The Appell Center is a non-profit performing arts organization that brings over 60 musical acts to York in a year. We pay over \$1.5 million a year in artist fees, hundreds of thousands to local stagehands, advertising organizations and businesses. Our work attracts thousands to the downtown restaurants and businesses in our city of 44,000 people. If our music rights were cut off – or raising to such a rate that we could not afford them – the impacts would be devastating.

Keep the decrees and keep the music playing.

Thank you.

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