

From: Noelle Scott <noe[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2019 1:32 PM
To: ATR-LitIII-Information (ATR) <ATR.LitIII.Information@ATR.USDOJ.gov>
Subject: Do Not End Antitrust Consent Decrees
Importance: High

To Whom it May Concern at the US Department of Justice:

We strongly disagree with the U.S. Department of Justice ending the Antitrust Consent Decrees which have regulated the Performing Rights Organizations (PRO) BMI and ASCAP since 1941. Ending this decree would adversely impact *The Cabarrus Arts Council*, all other non-profit educational, community, state and national performance venues, and restaurants, hotels, breweries, wineries, and bars in the following manner:

- It would allow BMI and ASCAP to increase fees, without any judicial or DOJ oversight, to every performance venue, thereby raising tickets prices for consumers; and
- It would endow BMI and ASCAP with the ability to unfairly control the performing artists that venues may hire.

Ending this decree will create significant uncertainty in how arts and concert venues and promoters would license performance rights for events going forward.



Noelle Rhodes Scott
President and CEO
Cabarrus Arts Council
65 Union Street South
P.O. Box 809
Concord, NC 28026
704.920.2787
www.cabarrusartscouncil.org



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