

From: David Briggs <dav[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, August 7, 2019 2:49 PM
To: ATR-LitIII-Information (ATR) <ATR.LitIII.Information@ATR.USDOJ.gov>
Subject: Consent Decrees for PRO - BMI and ASCAP

Greetings,

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 severely adversely impact the High Point Theatre and the City of High Point and her partners as well as, other non-profit, educational and community, state and national performance venues including but not limited to restaurants, hotels, breweries, wineries, bars, arenas, stadium and sport venues ACROSS THE ENTIRE NATION 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.

Please do not end the practice of Antitrust Consent Decrease currently regulating the Performing Rights Organizations BMI and ASCAP or any other music licensing agent or group.

Respectfully,

David S. Briggs, Director



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