

From: Allison Stockel <Alli [REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, August 9, 2019 3:33 PM
To: ATR-LitIII-Information (ATR) <ATR.LitIII.Information@ATR.USDOJ.gov>
Cc: Julie Paltauf <Julie@ridgefieldplayhouse.org>
Subject: ASCAP & BMI Consent decrees

We STRONGLY disagree with the U.S. Department of Justice ending the Antitrust Consent Decrees which have regulated the Performing Rights Organizations (PRO) with BMI and ASCAP since 1941.

Ending these decrees would have a SEVERE adverse impact The Ridgefield Playhouse, ALL OTHER NON PROFIT EDUCATIONAL, COMMUNITY, state and national performance venues, and restaurants, hotels, breweries, wineries, and bars 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 performing arts, concert venues and promoters would license performance rights for events going forward.

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*****Please call me or text me on my cell phone if you need an immediate response to something- I do not always get to check my emails in a timely fashion*****