

**From:** Elayne Brick <elaynebr[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 9, 2019 3:36 PM  
**To:** ATR-LitIII-Information (ATR) <ATR.LitIII.Information@ATR.USDOJ.gov>  
**Subject:** Antitrust Consent Decrees for BMI and ASCAP

To Whom It May Concern,

We strongly disagree with the US Department of Justice ending the Antitrust Consent Decrees which have regulated the Performing Rights Organizations BMI and ASCAP since 1941. Ending these decrees will have a severe adverse impact on Sellersville Theater, and other performing arts venues. As an independent 300 seat venue which is already paying substantial fees to these PROs, as well as others, we already do not make ends meet with ticket sales alone. Ending the decrees would allow BMI and ASCAP to increase fees indiscriminately, which would force us to either pass the increase along to our customers, or more likely, scale down our operating budget. Ticket prices for concerts have been on the rise for years in our market, and so there is just so much in additional ticket pricing that the consumer will bear.

Furthermore, ending the Consent Decrees would allow BMI and ASCAP to control the artists that venues could hire. This would affect a smaller venue like ours much more than the major promoters like Live Nation.

We urge you to continue the Antitrust Consent Decrees to preserve our vibrant music scene for both smaller venues and arenas. The alternative will spell disaster for venues like ours.

Sincerely,

Elayne Brick  
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