



August 8, 2019

*U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001*

*To whom it may concern,*

*Here at Stamford Center for the arts we STRONGLY disagree with the possible U.S. Department of Justice ending of 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 on the Stamford Center for the Arts Palace Theatre here in Stamford, CT and other nonprofit, educational, community, state and national performance venues, 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 allow 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.*

*Regards,*

**Michael E. Moran, Jr.**  
*President & CEO*

**The Palace Theatre 61 Atlantic St, Stamford, CT 06901**