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Sent: Wednesday, August 7, 2019 3:46 PM
To: ATR-LitIII-Information (ATR) <ATR.LitIII.Information@ATR.USDOJ.gov>
Subject: Antitrust 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) BMI and ASCAP since 1941.

Ending this decree would **SEVERELY** adversely impact the Fuquay-Varina Arts Center, **ALL OTHER NON PROFIT EDUCATIONAL, COMMUNITY**, state and national performance venues, and restaurants, hotels, breweries, wineries, and bar **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.



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