

From: Victoria Stephenson <vi [REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, August 1, 2019 6:38 PM
To: ATR-LitIII-Information (ATR) <ATR.LitIII.Information@ATR.USDOJ.gov>
Subject: Performing Rights Orgs- Consent Decrees

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this email to voice my concerns and disagreement with the possible decision to end the antitrust consent decrees that regulate Performing Rights Organizations (PRO's) such as BMI and ASCAP, among others.

The entire industry of music performance, and such, would have a negative impact if this decision is reached. The decrees, if terminated, would allow the PRO's to set whatever rates they wanted if not regulated, by setting differing rates for promoters in the same market, and licenses could be denied, effectively controlling the artists we can work with and as a result, our business.

PRO's should be regulated to maintain fair, standardized rates that are consistent across all promoters, and they should NOT be allowed to deny licenses - the ability to deny our license would bar us from working with any of the artists on their rosters, and the vast majority of performing musicians today are represented by both BMI and ASCAP. As a promoter that operates within our own venue and also as a renter at other venues, having inconsistent rates across other promoters in our market could edge out promoters whose fees are significantly higher than others in the same market.

Performing Rights Organizations should be regulated, and I respectfully urge the DOJ to maintain the Antitrust Consent Decrees.

Vicki Stephenson, Accounting Assistant

TRUEWEST
805 SE Sherman Street
Portland, OR 97214