

**From:** Len Wiltberger [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:12 PM

**To:** ATR-MusicLicensing-Workshop (ATR) <[ATR.MusicLicensing-Workshop@ATR.USDOJ.GOV](mailto:ATR.MusicLicensing-Workshop@ATR.USDOJ.GOV)>

**Subject:** Please keep the ASCAP and BMI consent decrees as they are. I beg you.

Dear Workshop participants,

The ASCAP and BMI organizations are difficult to work with even under the current consent decrees. I urge you to keep them both under the consent decrees for the following reasons:

- The ASCAP and BMI consent decrees are just as important today as ever before. The Justice Department must stand on the side of competition and small businesses by preserving the decrees in their current form.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, businesses like mine are fighting to survive. Terminating or sunseting the ASCAP and BMI consent decrees during this crisis would be a death sentence for businesses like mine that are economic multipliers in our communities.
- In fact, we were forced to close during the pandemic and even with no customers, we are expected to pay music licensing fees.

Making any changes to the music licensing system that would result in an increase of fees or further complicate the process would cripple American businesses

Len Wiltberger  
Owner,  
Keuka Spring Vineyards