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

**Subject:** Music Licensing

These music licensing companies need to stop altogether so sunseting current laws is not an option. Make it easier for small business to survive not make it harder.

We occasionally hear more performing rights organizations (PRO) are opening up and we as a small business are expected to pay more fees. This is ridiculous. Small companies like myself need help to protect us from fees that are mandated.

- 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.

*Dale Bliss, CEO*

*Greene Eagle Winery*