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**Sent:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:28 PM

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

**Subject:** Keep consent decrees in place for the sake of small businesses and musicians already suffering from the pandemic

To whom it may concern:

We ask the DOJ to please keep these consent decrees in place. These licensing agencies have prevented small businesses such as ours from hiring the occasional musician, thus the musicians themselves lose income because we cannot afford to pay the high prices ASCAP and BMI are asking. We cannot afford the fees, so we forego hiring musicians. Everyone loses. Everyone knows that the artists receive a mere pittance of any income generated by these agencies. The majority of the fees they collect go to supporting their own licensing agency business. It is a no end cycle of deflecting funds and income from those that need it most.

Thus, I personally request that the consent decrees stay in place for the sake of small businesses and the musicians themselves.

Thank you,

Christine Vrooman