

From: Jim Melillo <melil [REDACTED]>

Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 3:20 PM

To: ATR-MusicLicensing-Workshop (ATR) <ATR.MusicLicensing-Workshop@ATR.USDOJ.GOV>

Subject: ASCAP Consent Decree

Sir and Madam:

I am writing to you with my most recent SESAC bill in front of me. I also have it sitting on top of the ASCAP, the BMI and a fourth one which I need to find. We are a small winery employing 58 full time and 20 part time workers. We hold concerts that draw 50-100 people. These organizations as a group are asking for more than \$1,000 a year. They have never been to my winery. They do not know if any one plays any songs they own, they just threaten to sue me.

Is this what the American democratic system of justice is based on - guilty until proven innocent. Also is it built to encourage extremely rich companies to prey on poor one.

Please maintain the ability for us to pay one bill open transparency and make this form of blackmail less a part of the American Judicial system

Thank you

Jim Melillo

Partner
Priam Vineyards