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From: Musicmind [mailto:musicmi@Redacted]

Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2015 12:36 PM

To: ATR-LT3-ASCAP-BMI-Decree-Review

Subject: PRO Licensing of Jointly Owned Works

Dear Chief,

I am a songwriter and have witnessed my earnings disappear over many years now, due to illegal downloading and abhorrent streaming royalties.

Now it seems my right to decide over my own works is in question too???

Currently, the first time a song is released, a songwriter has the right to decide which artist records and releases it. We spend months and sometimes even years perfecting a song, till it represents us as writers, and has the best chance of being picked up by a major artist.

The second a song has been exposed to the public it loses value, especially if the exposure does not represent the song in the best light. This is why, what is being proposed is a DISASTER for songwriters.

Imagine this scenario: I write a song with another songwriter, a potential smash hit record. My co-writer has a cousin, who wants to pursue a career as a singer, but just can't sing. Nevertheless my co-writer decides to record and release our potential hit song with his cousin. In that instant, he takes away my right to have a hit with this song, as it will have little to no value once it is floating around on the internet in a terrible out of tune version. Nobody will want to touch it after that...See the problem??!!!

With the current rules, I get to decide, along with my co-writer, which artist gets to release the song and when. Sometimes you have to wait for years for the right artist to come along. This happened three times for me in the past year, where songs I wrote in 2008, 2009 and 2011 were released by NKOTB, Jordin Sparks and Il Volo.

In another scenario, with the new rules proposed, my co-writer could choose to license my song to a terrible tv show for no money at all, and again that song would be wasted, and so would all the countless hours I spent on creating it. And there would be nothing I could do about it.

Please don't take away yet another part of our foundation as songwriters...please.

Sincerely,

Lars Halvor Jensen
Songwriter for over 20 years

Sent from my iPhone