

# DREAMER'S MOON MUSIC

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Chief, Litigation III Section  
Antitrust Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
450 5<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 4000  
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Justice Department Review of the BMI and ASCAP Consent Decrees

To the Chief of the Litigation III Section:

My name is Jason Blume. I am a songwriter and music publisher based in Nashville. I am also a songwriting educator and the author of three of the best selling books on the topic of songwriting (all published by Billboard Books). I am writing in response to the Justice Department's request for public comments on the issue of whether BMI and ASCAP's consent decrees mandate music licensing on a 100% basis, rather than the long-established industry practice of fractionally licensing jointly-owned songs.

If 100% licensing became a requirement it would restrict my ability to determine which PRO licenses my music. It would negatively impact all American songwriters, who are already grappling with the profound effects of the emerging new economic model of our business.

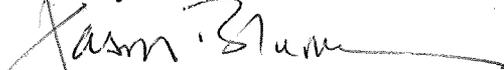
I have intentionally chosen to be affiliated with BMI for the past twenty years and I do not want ASCAP to collect royalties on my behalf. I have relationships with those I work with at BMI and I trust them to protect my rights and to license my music. 100% licensing would mean I would only be able to collaborate with fellow BMI songwriters or run the risk of not being fairly compensated for my work.

The only way to insure that my royalties flow through my trusted partners at BMI would be to only work with fellow BMI songwriters. The only way to insure that the licensing fees I would receive would be those negotiated by my PRO would be to limit collaborations. The only way for me to control where and how my music would be used would be to limit my collaborations.

Otherwise, under this proposal, my co-written works could be licensed by, and I would be paid by, a PRO that represents only my co-writers' share. The licensing fee the other PRO charges might be lower than the one BMI has negotiated or fought for in rate court, and despite my chosen affiliation, I would have to accept the lower fee. My royalties could also be delayed since they would have to flow through two PROs.

The PROs have an established fractional system that is fair and serves American songwriters well. I sincerely hope that you will not mandate music licensing on a 100% basis.

Sincerely,



Jason Blume