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Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:07 PM

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

Subject: Music Lic Fees

I am counsel to many small wineries around the country:

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, the industry was 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.

If you have any questions,

Please do not hesitate to call

KC Branch

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