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**Sent:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:22 PM

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

**Subject:** Music Rights Consent Decrees

To whom it may concern:

I am requesting that the Justice Department preserve the current Consent Decrees that have been in place for over the past 80-years. As a music professional we find 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.

It is highly untimely this issue has been schedule during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our industry is 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 currently sitting idle, quite possibly for up to 18-months. Additionally, based on what we have been advised BMI and ASCAP will be seeking to increase their revenue points; assessing merchandise, food and beverage sales, ticket services fees.

The fact that we were forced to close during the pandemic and even with no customers, we are expected to pay music licensing fees is insulting.

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 and add cost to the public for concerts.

Thank you

Randall Vogel