

From: David Price <dav [REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, August 5, 2014 1:26 PM
To: ATR-LT3-ASCAP-BMI-Decree-Review <ASCAP-BMI-Decree-Review@ATR.USDOJ.GOV>
Subject: Paltry Rates from Consent Decrees

Dear Dept. of Justice,

I am just a beginner as a songwriter. I have just two songs for sale. One of those I spent \$500 to make, the other, \$1000. Each of them is on Spotify, which sets its rates by the rules of the consent decrees. For each play, I get from \$00.0006 to \$00.004. And I have read of a well-known artist, David Lowery, garnering a million plays on Pandora, for which they received less than \$17.00.

Perhaps these rates are so low because they are seen like radio has been seen, as exposure for the artist. However, the difference is, on Spotify and others, a listener can select and play a song over and over, for free. So why would a listener ever buy the song?

When I was young I bought Beatles albums for \$5.00 and played them over and over. Even if I had listened to all 12 songs 100 times, I'd have been paying .004 for each play. I loved those albums and it was worth every penny I paid. In those days, the artist didn't pay for the production of their music, as I and other independent artists now do. Yet even before expenses, we make less than artists made in the 1960s. Shouldn't we be compensated a little better than we are?

Thank You,

David Price
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[REDACTED]
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