

From: Musicforwind [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 5, 2014 5:10 PM
To: ATR-Antitrust - Internet <ANTITRUST.ATR@ATR.USDOJ.gov>
Subject: ASCAP/BMI consent decree

To the Department of Justice,

I am commenting on the ASCAP/BMI consent decree.

I know very little about the recent laws, rulings, and judgments that have created the environment that creative artists work in today. What I do know is that they don't work for me.

I am a member of ASCAP, from which I receive a tiny, tiny royalty payment for the use of my work in live performance, radio, and television. But those tiny royalties seems huge relative to the microscopic royalties paid on digital transmissions and downloads. For that reason, I have opted not to even enter that arena -- Pandora, Spotify, iTunes, etc. -- except as my works have been pirated and put there. And the cost of pursuing a copyright infringement case against the pirates would not likely be recovered from the infinitesimal royalties that would be the likely settlement of such a case.

There is no way, under the current system, for me to even begin to make a living from my work. The protection of the copyright law is so weak as to be nonexistent for me.

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