Docket number: 25-CCB-0241

June 20, 2025

Richard Campbell	V	WV News
CLAIMANT	<i>,.</i> _	RESPONDENT

ORDER TO AMEND NONCOMPLIANT CLAIM

The Copyright Claims Board (Board) finds that your claim does not comply with the requirements of the CASE Act and related regulations. The claim cannot move forward unless it is amended.

If you wish to proceed with this claim, you must file an amended claim by **July 21, 2025**. If you do not, the Board must dismiss your claim without prejudice, although you may file again in the future before the Board or in federal court. If you file an amended claim and it is found compliant, you will be notified and directed to proceed with service. There is no additional filing fee for an amended claim. 17 U.S.C. § 1506(f)(1)(B).

To make your amended claim compliant, you must resolve the issues identified below. 37 C.F.R. § 224.1(c)(2). You may also choose to correct or edit any errors or other information in your claim before you file it again. You do not need to provide a legal argument in your claim – just a statement of facts and circumstances. Being specific in your description gives the other party and the Board more information about your claim. There is no character limit, so please be as detailed as possible.

Relief Requested

The Board is only authorized to grant certain kinds of relief. In the "Description of harm suffered and relief sought" section of the claim, you include requests for several forms of relief that the Board cannot grant: statutory damages under 17 U.S.C. § 504(c) based on considerations of willfulness; compensation above the maximum damages available in a Board proceeding; and the reimbursement of legal fees incurred before you filed the claim.

The Board cannot enhance damages awards based on willfulness and will not consider willfulness when making an award of statutory damages. 17 U.S.C. § 1504(e)(1)(A)(ii)(III). In addition, statutory damages in a Board proceeding are awarded under 17 U.S.C. § 1504(e)(1), which sets a lower maximum award than 17 U.S.C. § 504, of \$15,000 for each work that was infringed if the work was timely registered, and of \$30,000 total per proceeding. 17 U.S.C. §§ 1504(e)(1)(A)(ii)(I) & 1504(e)(1)(D). You allege infringement of two works that seem to have been timely registered, so your request for \$30,000 in relief is compliant. However, you also request "[a]dditional compensation for proven loss of business and reputational harm." The Board is not authorized to award additional compensation, and the Board does not award damages on an infringement claim based on harm to reputation.

Your request for legal fees incurred prior to the claim also seeks relief the Board cannot grant. The Board is only authorized to award attorney's fees if, during the course of a proceeding, a participant engages in bad-faith conduct and the adversely affected party incurs legal fees as a result. 17 U.S.C. §§ 1504(e)(3) & 1506(y)(2); 37 C.F.R. § 220.1(c). Earlier legal expenses cannot be recovered in this proceeding.

If you file an amended claim, do not request any relief that the Board cannot grant. More information is available in the <u>Damages</u> chapter of the CCB Handbook.

To submit an amended claim, log into your eCCB account and take the following steps:

- 1. From your dashboard, click the "Amend claim" button and select your docket number from the dropdown list.
- 2. Your claim will unlock for editing. The information you originally entered will appear in the same order as in your original claim.
- 3. Make the necessary edits. If you have filed supplemental documents, <u>you must re-upload any documents you wish to include in the amended claim</u> on the "**Documentation**" page. Please include only documents directly related to your claim, and label them clearly.
- 4. Once you have completed your edits, continue to click through the fillable claim form until you reach the "Review" page. The Review page includes all the information that you have provided in the claim up to this point. Carefully double-check the information on this page. If you have any corrections, you can select "Edit" to revise any entries necessary. Each section of information has an "Edit" button, which will take you back to that section so you can make changes. After you make changes, you can click "Save & review" to return to the Review page. Please review your claim carefully. Once you submit your amended claim, you will be unable to edit the claim while it is in compliance review.
- 5. Once you have completed your review and any revisions, you must confirm that the information in your claim is accurate and truthful to the best of your knowledge. To complete the declaration, type your full name into the "Digital signature" box near the bottom of the "Review filing" page and click "Agree & submit."

If you have questions, please contact <u>asktheboard@ccb.gov</u>. Include your docket number in the subject line. The Board is unable to provide legal advice. We can only provide legal information and assistance concerning Board procedures and requirements. If you would like to seek further guidance from a lawyer or a law student at reduced or no cost, please visit the <u>Pro Bono Assistance</u> page on ccb.gov. You may also refer to the <u>Compliance Review</u> chapter of the CCB Handbook for more assistance.

Copyright Claims Board