

Docket number: 24-CCB-0128

June 13, 2024

Corey Logan	V.	Gamble Huff Productions, Gamble Huff Music Publishing LLC, Gamble-Huff Entertainment LLC, and Assorted Music Inc.
CLAIMANT		RESPONDENTS

SECOND ORDER TO AMEND NONCOMPLIANT CLAIM

The Copyright Claims Board finds that your claim, as amended, still 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 a second amended claim by **July 15, 2024**. 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. There is no additional filing fee for an amended claim. If you file a second amended claim and it is found compliant, you will be notified and directed to proceed with service. However, if your second amended claim also is found not to comply, the Board will dismiss the proceeding without prejudice. 17 U.S.C. § 1506(f)(1)(B); 37 C.F.R. § 224.1(d).

To make your second 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.

Permissible Claim

The Board is only authorized to resolve certain types of copyright disputes. 17 U.S.C. § 1504(c)(1)-(3). You checked the box on the claim form to state that your amended claim is for copyright infringement, which is a type of claim that the Board can address.

However, your amended claim also refers to conversion, racketeering, labor law violations, and other kinds of claims, and contends that the Board may consider such claims as well. You assert that "this Claims Board has supplemental jurisdiction over claimants related claims pertaining to California Labor Codes 3423," and that "there are certain racketeering activities that also contributed to the 'condition precedent violations' . . . also 'conversion' – the deprivation of another's right should expand the scope of this investigative aspects concerning this complaint." The Board cannot consider those claims.

If you file a second amended claim, do not sweep in claims that the Board cannot address. Please review Circular 1: Copyright Basics and the Introduction chapter in the CCB Handbook for more information about copyright and the kinds of disputes that the Board can hear. You should only file a second amended claim if you can state facts to support a claim under copyright law that can be heard by the Board.

Infringing Activity

The May 10, 2024 noncompliance order explained that your claim did not present enough facts to support your copyright infringement claim: "you do not offer any supporting details about the respondents using your works in a way that would infringe any exclusive rights. Your claim does not contain allegations that, without permission, the respondents copied, distributed, or performed your sound recordings or musical compositions, or prepared any works based on them." Your amended claim adds only bare assertions of such infringing acts.

In the "Describe the infringement" section of the claim, you assert: "Without permission, respondents copied, prepared derivative works, distributed, performed claimant's sound recordings, assigned to other musical acts and vocalists and refused to compensate copyright claimant." In the "Description of harm suffered and relief sought" section, you add: "Without permission or authorization respondents copied, distributed, bootlegged, performed sound recordings or musical compositions, prepared alternate, similar and derivative works based on them for other vocalists and musical acts." However, you have not offered supporting factual allegations that make those bare assertions plausible. As amended, your claim still does not present facts that indicate *how* the respondents used any exclusive rights you have in the allegedly infringed works without permission. You do not specify any particular act infringing any particular work; or which respondent committed the act; or how, when, or where it happened.

You added an MP3 file and a WAV file as supplemental documents to the amended claim, but you do not explain how they relate to the respondents, the infringement claim, or any allegedly infringed work. Instead, in the "Description of harm suffered and relief sought" section, you state: "Complainant also attached some MP3 and WAVE files of his registered musical compositions which are derivative works as supplementary evidence to display broad impact and influence that his music has had on pop, hiphop and RnB trends[.]" Without specific facts indicating that the respondents infringed specific works, these files do not provide a basis to pursue your claim.

If you submit a second amended claim, it must include details that show or explain how the respondents infringed each work listed in the "Works infringed" section. To address this issue, the second amended claim must include facts in the "Describe the infringement" section that describe acts infringing your copyrights, specifying how each respondent engaged in the infringing activity. Be as detailed as possible, setting forth what each respondent did in relation to each work you allege was infringed.

Final Amendment

Your amended claim resolves some, but not all, of the issues raised in the May 10, 2024 noncompliance order. This is your third and final opportunity to submit a compliant claim. If your claim remains noncompliant, the entire proceeding will be dismissed. 17 U.S.C. § 1506(f)(1)(B).

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 Attorney