



# COPYRIGHT CLAIMS BOARD

Docket number: 24-CCB-0050

March 20, 2025

Lori AG Hellis

CLAIMANT

v.

Lauren R Matthias, East Idaho News,  
Nathaniel F Eaton

RESPONDENTS

## SECOND ORDER TO AMEND NONCOMPLIANT CLAIM

The Copyright Claims Board (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 properly amended.

If you wish to proceed with this claim, you must file a second amended claim by **April 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. 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 amended 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.

### Copyright Infringement—Infringing Activity

You have brought a copyright infringement claim before the Board. Your claim must make enough factual allegations to support each “element” of the claim. Information about the elements required to assert a claim of copyright infringement is available in the [Starting an Infringement Claim](#) chapter of the CCB Handbook. The elements of a copyright infringement claim are:

1. You own a valid copyright in the work, or have been given an exclusive license to the copyright rights at issue in the work,
2. The respondent used one of your exclusive rights in the work without permission,
3. The respondent had access to your work, meaning a reasonable opportunity to view or hear your work, and
4. The respondent’s work is substantially similar to the original elements of expression in your work.

Your amended claim does not provide enough facts about how the respondent used one of your exclusive rights in

the work without permission. Please provide more details and background regarding this element in your amended claim.

Copyright law grants exclusive rights to copyright owners. These include the right to reproduce, distribute, and publicly display the work, and to make a “derivative work,” which is a work based on the original work. *See* 17 U.S.C. § 106 for a list of these rights. Someone who does one of those activities without the copyright owner’s permission may be infringing the copyright, unless they have a legitimate defense. More information about exclusive rights is available on page 3 of the [Starting an Infringement Claim](#) chapter of the CCB Handbook.

The allegations in the “Describe the infringement” section, along with the attachment email and declaration, appear to show that your publisher, with authorization, sent an email to East Idaho News, a respondent, your manuscript via a link to the book. While your claim suggests that what was sent to East Idaho News was a PDF, that is a digital copy of the book, the attachment makes clear that the publisher did not send the PDF, but rather a link one could click on to be taken to the publisher’s PDF. The second respondent, an employee of East Idaho News, appears to have forwarded the email with the link to the third respondent. As noted in the Board’s February 14, 2025 Order to Amend Noncompliant Claim, although these activities are potentially unethical, these allegations do not appear to describe any infringing activity, and do not offer enough detail about those two respondents using your work in a way that would infringe any exclusive rights. Additionally, your amended claim does not give any additional details about how the third respondent, Lauren Matthias, distributed the book. The [email](#) from your anonymous source appears to list a file that may have been attached to the email and that may be a PDF copy of your book, but it is unclear whether Lauren Matthias sent the anonymous source a PDF or just provided her with the link from the original email. As such, it does not appear that the first two respondents engaged in infringing activity and your claim is unclear as to the third respondent, Lauren Matthias. As such, your overall allegations do not clearly describe any infringing activity. If you have clearer facts regarding Lauren Matthias, you can consider dropping the first two respondents and bringing a claim solely against Lauren Matthias, but only to the extent that you can clearly describe infringing actions taken by that respondent.

In sum, if you submit an amended claim, you must more fully explain how *each* respondent infringed your allegedly infringed work. To address this issue, your amended claim must include facts in the “Describe the infringement” section that describe acts infringing your copyrights, specifying how the respondent engaged in the infringing activity. You should be as detailed as possible, setting forth what the respondent did in relation to the work you allege was infringed.

## Final Amendment

Your amended claim did not resolve the compliance issues raised in the February 14, 2025, Order to Amend Noncompliant Claim. **This is your third and final opportunity to submit a compliant claim in this proceeding. If your claim remains noncompliant, the entire proceeding will be dismissed.** 17 U.S.C. § 1506(f)(1)(B).

To submit a second 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, you must re-upload any documents you wish to include in the amended claim 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 [asktheboard@ccb.gov](mailto:asktheboard@ccb.gov). 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 [Pro Bono Assistance](#) page on ccb.gov. You may also refer to the [Compliance Review](#) chapter of the CCB Handbook for more assistance.

Copyright Claims Board