



COPYRIGHT CLAIMS BOARD

Docket number: 23-CCB-0417

January 5, 2024

Mystery Sheet LLC and Kevin Greenlee

CLAIMANTS

v.

Theresa Steffens

RESPONDENT

ORDER TO AMEND NONCOMPLIANT CLAIM

The Copyright Claims 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 **February 5, 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. 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.

Copyright Registration

The Board can only hear a copyright infringement claim if, before the claim was filed, (1) the Copyright Office issued a registration certificate for the copyrighted work or (2) the legal or beneficial owner of the copyright applied to register the copyright by delivering a completed application, deposit, and fee to the Copyright Office, and the Copyright Office has not refused the application. 17 U.S.C. § 1505(a). The claim must include the registration number for the allegedly infringed work or, if the Copyright Office has not registered the work, the service request number for a pending application to register the copyright. 37 C.F.R. §§ 221.1(b) & 222.2(c)(7)(ii)(C)-(D).

In the “Works infringed” section of your claim, you identify the allegedly infringed work as a sound recording titled “The Delphi Murders: The Leak,” which you describe as the audio recordings and script of a podcast episode. You state that the Copyright Office has not registered the work and you provide 1-13344162291 as the service request number for a pending application for registration of the work. Copyright Office records for that application indicate that the Office has not received a deposit copy of the work. The term “deposit” refers to the copy or copies of a work that must be submitted to the Copyright Office with an application for registration. Information

about the deposit requirement for registration is available in [Chapter 1500](#) of the *Compendium of U.S. Copyright Office Practices, Third Edition*.

The Board cannot hear this claim because a deposit copy of the work was not delivered to the Copyright Office before this claim was filed on December 29, 2023. Because your work was neither registered nor subject to a complete pending application at that time, this claim cannot be successfully amended and cannot proceed. Instead, you would need to refile your infringement claim as a new claim in a new proceeding after a complete application packet is filed. You should not submit a new claim until after you submit the deposit for 1-13344162291, or submit a new application, deposit, and fee. For more information on registration, please refer to the Copyright Office [Registration Portal](#).

Because your copyright infringement claim is based on a work that does not appear to be covered by a registration or complete application for registration, we have not reviewed the remainder of your claim to determine whether it complies in other respects with the legal and formal requirements for a claim before the Board. If you believe the above statements regarding your application are in error, you may submit an amended claim that shows that a complete application with the deposit was submitted before you filed your December 29, 2023 claim. If you submit an amended claim that resolves the registration issue, the Board will engage in a full compliance review, so you should review the [CCB Handbook](#), including the chapter on [Starting an Infringement Claim](#), and make sure the rest of your amended claim is compliant.

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, 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. 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 Attorney