**Docket number:** 23-CCB-0390

December 1, 2023

CDM Innovations	V. ——	QUALITY HOME DECOR
CLAIMANT		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 <u>January 2, 2023</u>. 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.

## Impermissible Claim

The Board is only authorized to resolve certain types of copyright disputes. Three particular kinds of claims are permitted:

- claims of copyright infringement;
- 2. claims seeking a declaration that activity is not infringement; and
- claims about misrepresentations in connection with a takedown notice or counter-notice under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA).

17 U.S.C. § 1504(c)(1)-(3). It appears as though you are alleging unauthorized use of trade dress "under the Lanham act claim and common law rights." As noted above, the Board is only authorized to resolve certain types of copyright disputes and does not hear any claims related to the Lanham Act or unfair competition.

In your claim, you listed "1-13202193551" as the service request number of the allegedly infringed works. A Board search of Copyright Office records shows this service request number corresponds to a Group Registration for Published Photograph application. Registration applicants may only use this option to register a group of photographs. This option cannot be used to register any other type of work, such as digital artwork, infographics,

or packaging. Further, a Group Registration for Published Photographs only covers the deposited photographs, not any of the original material in the photographs.

Because the allegations in the "Describe the infringement" section of the claim focus on trade dress allegations and the distinctiveness of the packaging and do not detail any copyright claim involving the photographs in the "Works infringed" section of the claim, these allegations do not appear to be about any claim that the Board could hear.

Please review <u>Circular 1: Copyright Basics</u> and the <u>Introduction</u> chapter in the CCB Handbook for more information about copyright and the kinds of disputes that the Board can hear. Additional information on registering packaging can be found in the <u>Compendium of U.S. Copyright Office Practices, Third Edition</u> <u>618.8(A)(3)</u>. You should only file an amended claim if you can state facts to support a claim under copyright law that can be heard by the Board. For more information about what is required to support a claim of infringement please refer to the <u>Starting an Infringement Claim</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</u> <u>Review</u> chapter of the CCB Handbook for more assistance.

Copyright Claims Attorney