



COPYRIGHT CLAIMS BOARD

Docket number: 24-CCB-0245

November 25, 2024

Wyomme A. Pariss

CLAIMANT

v.

Jasmine D. Andrews

RESPONDENT

ORDER DISMISSING CLAIM

The Copyright Claims Board issued orders on August 29, 2024 and October 23, 2024 that notified claimant Wyomme A. Pariss (Pariss) that the claim and amended claim, respectively, did not comply with the applicable statutory and regulatory requirements for filings before the Board. On November 19, 2024, Pariss filed a second amended claim, which was the final opportunity to file a compliant claim. 17 U.S.C. § 1506(f)(1)(B); 37 C.F.R. § 224.1(d). A Copyright Claims Attorney reviewed the second amended claim and determined that the infringement claim is still noncompliant. Pariss signed an agreement granting respondent Jasmine D. Andrews's (Andrews) film company the right to produce Pariss's screenplay into a film. Pariss alleges that Andrews's distribution of the film is infringing, but she does not identify a valid reason why that license was not effective.

- She contends that Andrews separately agreed to consult and get Pariss's permission before distributing the film. Such a separate agreement would have no effect because a "complete understanding" clause in the 2021 agreement provided that other agreements about the screenplay were superseded.
- She contends that Andrews has not shared distribution proceeds or provided a copy of the film, and did not deliver it on time. These may be breach-of-contract issues that a state court can hear, but the Board cannot.
- She contends that the 2021 agreement only permitted Andrews to produce a film, and that distribution without further authorization was beyond its scope. However, the agreement at least implicitly allowed the producer to distribute the work, and nothing in the agreement required further authorization.

The Copyright Claims Attorney referred the claim to a Copyright Claims Officer to confirm that it does not comply with the applicable requirements and that this proceeding should, therefore, be dismissed without prejudice. 17 U.S.C. § 1506(f)(1)(B). The Copyright Claims Officer reviewed the second amended claim and concurs with the finding of noncompliance. The second amended claim shows that this infringement claim cannot prevail.

Accordingly, the Board dismisses the claim without prejudice and closes this case. Dismissal without prejudice means that the allegations may be raised again by filing a new claim, if there is no agreement with the respondent to the contrary.