Docket number: 24-CCB-0164

July 10, 2024

Nadine Hokayem	V.	Alex Brecher
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>August 9, 2024</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.

Copyright Infringement Claim — 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, a deposit, and the required fee" to the Copyright Office, and the Copyright Office has not refused the application. 17 U.S.C. § 1505(a). The "Works infringed" section of your claim stated that the Copyright Office had not registered the allegedly infringed work, and provided a Service Request number "1-13581590241" for a pending application for registration of the work. The work was subsequently registered after correspondence with the copyright examiner as TX009399393 on June 12, 2024. The effective date of copyright registration is the day the U.S. Copyright Office receives all the required elements in acceptable form. This includes a completed application, a filing fee, and copies of the work being registered (the "deposit" copies). However, Copyright Office records for that application indicates that a valid deposit copy of the work was not received before the claim was filed

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 unless a valid deposit copy of the work was delivered to the Copyright Office before the initial claim was filed. As noted in the correspondence you received on April 19, 2024, the multiple files you uploaded were not an acceptable deposit for registering an online work. Your effective date of registration was amended to June 11, 2024, when you uploaded an acceptable deposit.

Because it appears that a copy of the work was not submitted to accompany your application and fee before you filed this claim on June 4, 2024, it cannot be successfully amended and cannot proceed. Instead, now that the correct deposit copy has been received and a registration has been issued, you will need to refile your claim before the Board as a new claim. You should only attempt to file an amended claim instead of a new claim if you believe—and can show—that the above information is incorrect, such that the Copyright Office did not make you submit a new, acceptable deposit copy after you filed your initial claim on June 4, 2024.

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