Docket number: 24-CCB-0110

July 19, 2024

IRIS PROPERTIES, INC.	v	WARNER RECORDS
CLAIMANT		RESPONDENT

ORDER DISMISSING CLAIM WITHOUT PREJUDICE

The Copyright Claims Board (Board) issued orders that notified the claimant on April 25, 2024, and June 14, 2024, that the claim and amended claim, respectively, did not comply with the applicable statutory and regulatory requirements for filings before the Board. On July 10, 2024, the claimant 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 because it fails to provide evidence that Iris Properties, Inc. owns the copyright in the works. In the second amended claim, the claimant directed the Board to "make reference to the documents previously submitted, more specifically to the document from Ernest Kelley to Alan Lorber." However, as noted by the Board in the June 14, 2024, Noncompliance Order "the letter further states that 'any such assigns shall only be those companies or assigns wholly owned and/or controlled by each of us respectively or Iris as a collection agent.' Thus, it is still unclear how or if Iris owns any copyright rights to this particular work."

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. For the reasons set forth, the second amended claim does not present facts sufficient to show a plausible claim of copyright infringement. 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 respondents to the contrary.

Copyright Claims Board