



# COPYRIGHT CLAIMS BOARD

Docket number: 25-CCB-0107  
April 9, 2025

Joyce L Hansel, ms

CLAIMANT

v.

Deborah Greenspan

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 **May 9, 2025**. 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.

### Allegedly Infringing Activity

Your copyright infringement claim does not present enough facts to clearly state how the respondent used your exclusive rights without permission in the allegedly infringed work, a book titled *The Chronic Disease Pollution Connection / How to Stop The Development of Chronic Disease Clusters*.

Copyright law grants exclusive rights to copyright owners. These include the right to reproduce, distribute, and publicly perform the work, and to make a “derivative work,” which is a work based on the original work. Someone who does one of those activities without the copyright owner’s permission may be infringing the copyright, unless they have a legitimate defense. More information about exclusive rights is available on page 3 of the [Starting an Infringement Claim](#) chapter of the CCB Handbook.

You allege that the respondent initially published your book in December 2005—although you do not give facts to state your relationship with respondent and whether they initially had permission or what they had permission for—and the same day, the respondent placed it on Amazon without your permission. You allege that you received royalties from Amazon for books sold, but the payments stopped in February 2017 “because I didn’t keep my email address up dated.” You also allege that you received a notice from Amazon “about a month ago” that a different

publishing company has been selling your book, and that you searched and found that the respondent had republished your book in January 2021.

Those allegations do not clearly describe an infringing act by the respondent that could be the basis of this claim. You describe the respondent as your book publisher, which suggests that some or all of the respondent's activities were authorized.

In addition, your claim cannot proceed based on any alleged infringing activities that you knew about or should have known about more than three years ago. A "statute of limitations" is a time limit set by law for starting a claim. The statute of limitations period for copyright claims, both in federal court and the Board, is three years after the claim "accrues." 17 U.S.C. §§ 507(b) & 1504(b)(1). A claim for copyright infringement accrues when the infringing act occurs, or when the claimant discovers, or with due diligence should have discovered, the infringement. A proceeding before the Board cannot be commenced more than three years after the claim accrued. 17 U.S.C. § 1504(b)(1). Your allegations indicate that you knew about the respondent's initial publication of your book on Amazon, and that any claims related to that use on Amazon in that time period accrued no later than February 21, 2017, and cannot be the subject of this infringement claim. New infringing acts would open a new three-year window for raising a claim, because a new statute of limitations period starts for each new incident of infringement; however, your claim does not clearly indicate that any recent publication by the respondent was unauthorized.

If you submit an amended claim, it must include more facts that indicate which acts by the respondent you consider infringing. The amended claim should state whether you ever authorized the respondent to publish your book, and if you did, you must also state facts that indicate why and how any publication or distribution by the respondent has gone beyond the scope of what you authorized. It should also state what actions or investigation you took when you stopped receiving payments in 2017 and why you did not take action before 2017 when you were receiving payments for potentially unauthorized sales. Finally, you should explain what you mean by "a different publishing company" publishing your book and what relationship that company has to the respondent, because if this respondent is not involved in the infringement, a claim cannot be brought against the respondent for copyright infringement.

Also, your claim names an individual as a respondent, and your allegations do not clearly distinguish that individual from the business entity that published the book. If you file an amended claim, include specific facts that indicate how the named respondent personally played a role in any infringing activity.

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](mailto: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 Board