Docket number: 22-CCB-0040

United States Copyright Claims Board

Relevant Ads, Inc.	V. –	GGL Projects, Inc
CLAIMANT		RESPONDENT

ORDER TO AMEND NONCOMPLIANT CLAIM

The Copyright Claims 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 **September 26, 2022**. If you do not, the Board must dismiss your claim without prejudice, although you may file again in the future before the CCB 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 extra 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.

Issue - Permissible Claim

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

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

You checked the box stating your claim was one of copyright infringement. In your claim, however, the registration number you provided (90809588) corresponds to a registered **trademark** with the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Further, you include allegations that relate solely to an alleged trademark infringement claim rather than copyright infringement claim. For example, you allege the respondents "are business competitors that offer the same, or very similar, business services" who use your "trademarked term in a matter that simultaneously damages" you "as well as enriches" the respondents. Because you have not included a copyright registration number and your allegations appear to allege a trademark dispute, we have not reviewed the claim to determine whether it complies in other respects with the legal requirements for bringing a copyright infringement claim before the Board.

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. You should only file an amended claim if you believe you actually have a claim under copyright law that can be heard by the CCB. For more information about what is required to support a claim of infringement, noninfringement, or misrepresentation please refer to the CCB Handbook:

- Starting an Infringement Claim
- Starting a Noninfringement Claim
- Starting a Misrepresentation Claim

Even if you are able to assert an infringement claim, you should only file an amended claim *if* you received a copyright registration or filed an application for your work with the Copyright Office prior to filing your claim. Please review <u>Circular 1: Copyright Basics</u> for more information on the types of works that are eligible for copyright 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, deposit, and fee to the Copyright Office, and the Copyright Office has not refused the application. 17 U.S.C. § 1505(a). In your claim, you provide neither a copyright registration number nor a service request number for a pending application. If your work actually had a copyright registration or application for copyright registration before you filed the claim, please provide the registration number for the work or the service request number for the application to register the work. If your work is neither registered nor subject to a pending application, this claim cannot proceed. If your work was neither registered nor subject to a pending application at the time your claim was filed before the Board, the claim cannot be successfully amended and cannot proceed. Instead, you will need to file an application for registration and then file your claim in a new proceeding. For more information on registration, please refer to the Copyright Office Registration Portal.

- 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 your claim included supplementary documents, <u>you must re-upload any documents you wish to include</u> in the amended claim on the "**Documentation**" page.
- 4. Once you have completed your edits, continue to click through the fillable claim form until you reach the "**Review**" page. The Revie w 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."

Copyright Claims Attorney

August 26, 2022