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American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers
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Bernard Korman
General Counsel

April 23, 1979

Hon. Douglas Coulter
Chairman
Copyright Royalty Tribunal
1111 20th St., NW
Washington, D. C. 20036

Dear Chairman Coulter:

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) generally supports the Copyright Royalty Tribunal's proposed regulation regarding filing of claims to cable royalty fees (44FR20220 (1979)).

ASCAP suggests one modification to the rule: that the word "brief" be inserted before the word "justification" in proposed Sections 302.5(a)(2) and 302.6(f).

The full justification for claims to cable royalty fees would, of course, be the presentation each claimant would make to the Tribunal if a distribution proceeding were necessary. Since the purpose of the proposed regulation is to ascertain "simply and expeditiously if there is a controversy," the Tribunal presumably does not wish the parties to make a detailed presentation when claims are filed.

Indeed, if voluntary distribution arrangements are worked out, the preparation of a detailed presentation would impose a needless expense on copyright owners. Accordingly, we suggest that the regulation require only a brief justification of the claims being made.

Sincerely,

Bernard Korman

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