



September 11, 2025

Dear Broadcasters:

We wanted to send you an update regarding the new license agreements we've previously reported to you about in August relating to ASCAP and BMI, as well as developments on the SESAC and GMR fronts that we wanted to be sure you were aware of.

We understand that each of ASCAP and BMI have reached out (or will imminently reach out) to you with the new license agreements that are retroactive to January 1, 2022, and run through December 31, 2029. The RMLC's Executive Committee unanimously approved these new licenses, and the RMLC Board of Directors voted unanimously (among all members present) to support each of the new licenses – which were negotiated by a sub-committee of our RMLC Executive Committee and outside counsel at King & Spalding.

As we previously reported, the new BMI and ASCAP licenses maintain the percentage-of-revenue license fee structure of the prior deals and continue to provide for broad coverage of your over-the-air (and HD multicasting) programming, as well as your simulcast/website transmissions of podcasts/archived content. Each of the new licenses also continues to provide stations with alternative per program (or program period) licenses applicable to talk-formatted stations. As in the past, they do not cover transmissions of music programming that is customized or provided on-demand to the listener – e.g., Pandora or Spotify-like music programming.

While the percentage rates in the new deals are higher than the old rates, they are nowhere near the much-higher rates sought by each of BMI and ASCAP in the now-resolved rate court litigations. While the RMLC certainly would have preferred to report rate decreases, our constituents need to bear several things in mind which motivated our support for these settlements. First, during these litigations, each licensing organization sought to benefit from the existing performance royalty rates paid to other music licensing organizations which arguments, if credited, could have resulted in a drastically higher rate result for the industry compared to what was achieved via the RMLC's settlements. Given, as well, the rate increases associated with music rights licensing more generally across multiple platforms during the last several years (including certain non-RMLC negotiated agreements with BMI/ASCAP applicable to radio), coupled with the fact that the broadcast radio industry revenue base has declined significantly resulting in lower royalties to BMI and ASCAP absent an increase in the underlying revenue base, the RMLC is pleased to have come to the arrangements just signed with each of BMI and ASCAP. And by retaining the percentage-of-revenue license structure in each of these licenses, this

means that fees will adjust along with station revenues during these uncertain economic times.

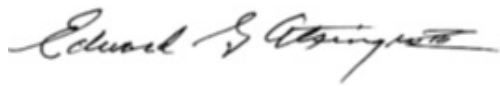
The new BMI license form has been posted to the RMLC website for your easy access, and we expect BMI will be reaching out to each of you with respect to the new licenses. The terms of the ASCAP license are confidential so we cannot post them to our website; but we understand that ASCAP has communicated with you (or will be communicating with you) regarding the specific terms and mechanics associated with the new ASCAP licenses. Please be on the lookout for those communications.

As for SESAC, you will recall – as we reported last year – that the RMLC fared well in a rate arbitration with SESAC for the license period January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2026. The arbitrator's decision nominally increased SESAC's former blanket revenue-based license rates while rejecting SESAC's efforts to effectively double the prior percentage rates. The new longform license for stations should be available and distributed to you (by SESAC) within the next several weeks, and they will be retroactive to January 1, 2023.

Finally, regarding GMR, we understand that most stations are subject to license agreements with GMR which have an initial four-year term that expires on March 31, 2026, with an option to renew for an additional three-year term that must be exercised during a window of time between October 1 and December 15, 2025. GMR recently notified RMLC to advise RMLC that GMR will soon be reaching out to stations to remind them of that window for stations to exercise their option to extend the license (and that, while the agreements give GMR the option to extend as well, GMR has no intention of exercising its option so the decision to extend lies solely with the stations).

Should you have any questions concerning these matters, please feel free to contact the RMLC c/o Bill Velez, Executive Director. Phone: (615) 844-6260 or e-mail [info@radiomlc.org](mailto:info@radiomlc.org).

Best regards,



Ed Atsinger  
*RMLC Chairman*

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