



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GLOBAL MUSIC RIGHTS SUFFERS MAJOR SETBACK IN ANTITRUST LAWSUIT BY RADIO MUSIC LICENSE COMMITTEE

Nashville (February 16, 2020) – Last week, a federal court in California dealt new performing rights organization (PRO) Global Music Rights (GMR) a significant defeat in the antitrust lawsuit brought by the Radio Music License Committee (RMLC). The court ruled that on the facts RMLC described in its Complaint, GMR is a *per se* illegal enterprise, and also violates the U.S. antitrust laws in numerous other respects. The order represents a wholesale rejection of the defenses GMR has asserted in the litigation, and paves the way for RMLC to win a final victory by demonstrating only what the world knows to be true: that GMR orchestrated an exodus by artists from other PROs specifically in order to raise the price of pre-existing music licenses.

RMLC’s Executive Director Bill Velez said in statement: “We were pleased but not surprised by the court’s important ruling. GMR is *worse* than the other PROs. Its only purpose is to charge more for what could previously be bought for less. The court rightly recognized that there is no excuse for that conduct under the antitrust laws.”

Mr. Velez added: “Litigation is no one’s first choice. But we are gratified that the court denied every single argument GMR made on the merits of its case, and left RMLC with a clear path to reaching a final verdict in our favor.”

#

ABOUT THE RMLC:

The RMLC is a non-profit corporation that represents commercial radio stations with respect to music licensing matters involving performing right organizations such as ASCAP, BMI and SESAC. The RMLC’s Board of Directors consists of a diverse group of radio station owners and/or management who serve on a voluntary basis and without compensation. For additional information, visit <http://www.radiomlc.org>.

Media Contact:

Bill Velez
Radio Music License Committee
bill@radiomlc.org
(615)844-6260