

**Before the
COPYRIGHT ROYALTY JUDGES
Washington, DC**

In the Matter of)	
)	
)	Docket No. 14-CRB-CD-0011-SD (2013)
Distribution of the)	
2013 Satellite Funds)	
)	

**COMMENTS OF PROGRAM SUPPLIERS
ON THE EXISTENCE OF CONTROVERSIES**

The Motion Picture Association of America, Inc. (“MPAA”), on behalf of producers and distributors of network and syndicated series, including non-team sports, movies, and specials broadcast by television stations whose signals are carried as distant signals by satellite systems (“Program Suppliers”), hereby submits its comments in response to the request for comments published by the Copyright Royalty Judges (“Judges”) on December 22, 2014. *See Distribution of the 2013 Cable And Satellite Royalty Funds*, 79 Fed. Reg. 76396 (December 22, 2014) (“Notice”). The Notice requests comments regarding “the existence and extent of any controversies regarding distribution of the 2013 cable and satellite royalty funds.” Notice at 76396. MPAA addresses controversies as to the 2013 satellite royalty fund (“2013 Satellite Fund”) in these comments.

I. Controversies With Respect to the 2013 Satellite Fund

A. Phase I Controversies

Historically, at the Phase I level, MPAA has represented the interests of all copyright owners of network and syndicated series, movies, specials and non-team sports broadcast by

television stations during the royalty years at issue in that proceeding (“Program Suppliers”).¹ MPAA intends to represent the interests of those same Program Suppliers in Phase I of the distribution of the 2013 Satellite Fund. Program Suppliers anticipate that a hearing will be necessary to resolve this Phase I controversy, and recommend that the Judges consolidate the outstanding Phase I controversy as to the 2013 Satellite Fund with pending Docket No. 14-CRB-0008-SD (2010-12). If Phase I hearings are held, MPAA intends to participate fully in those hearings as the Phase I representative of the Program Suppliers category. MPAA will represent the interests of producers and distributors of syndicated series, movies, specials, and non-team sports, including the interests of copyright owners who have agreed to representation by MPAA.

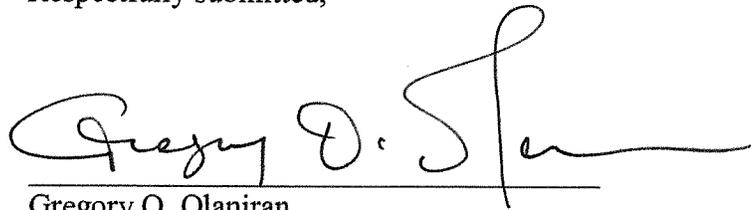
B. Phase II Controversies

In Phase II of the distribution of the 2013 Satellite Fund, MPAA will represent the MPAA-represented Program Suppliers exclusively. MPAA-represented Program Suppliers have claims to royalties awarded for movies, syndicated programming, and special programs, including non-team sports programming, as to the 2013 Satellite Fund. To the extent a claimant not represented by MPAA makes a claim that could impact the claims of the MPAA-represented Program Suppliers in the course of these comments, a Phase II controversy would exist against the MPAA-represented Program Suppliers. MPAA-represented Program Suppliers are aware of Phase II controversies in the Program Suppliers category between the MPAA-represented Program Suppliers and those Program Suppliers represented by the Broadcaster Claimant Group (“BCG”) and Independent Producers Group (“IPG”). MPAA has not reached a Phase II settlement with either BCG or IPG as to the 2013 Satellite Fund, and it anticipates that a hearing

¹ This definition of the Program Suppliers Phase I category is consistent with the longstanding definition of the Program Suppliers category that has been stipulated to by the parties in past cable royalty distribution proceedings, *see* Joint Motion Of The Phase I Parties To Adopt Stipulation As To Claimant Group Categorization And Scope Of Claims, Docket No. 2007-3 CRB CD 2004-2005 at Exhibit A (October 2, 2009), except that for satellite royalty distribution purposes, Program Suppliers category includes network programs.

will be necessary to resolve those controversies. If Phase II hearings are held, MPAA intends to participate fully in those hearings. MPAA will represent the producers and/or distributors of syndicated series, including non-team sports, movies, and specials who have agreed to representation by MPAA.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 21st day of January, 2015, a copy of the foregoing Comments of Program Suppliers on the Existence of Controversies was sent by Federal Express to the individuals listed on the attached service list.

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