Case 1:19-cv-01958-JRS-DML Document 1 Filed 05/16/19 Page 1 of 7 PageID #: 1



Provided by: Overhauser Law Offices LLC www.iniplaw.org www.overhauser.com

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION

BROADCAST MUSIC, INC.; UNIVERSAL-MILLHOUSE MUSIC, a DIVISION OF MAGNA SOUND CORP.; COMBINE MUSIC CORP.; RONDOR MUSIC INTERNATIONAL, INC. d/b/a IRVING MUSIC; DANDELION MUSIC CO., a division of JAMIE MUSIC PUBLISHING CO.; GROPER MUSIC; RHYTHM WRANGLER MUSIC; SONGS OF UNIVERSAL, INC.; GET LOOSE MUSIC, INC.; TREMONTI STAPP MUSIC; RESERVOIR MEDIA MANAGEMENT INC. d/b/a RESERVOIR 416 a/k/a RESERVOIR ONE AMERICA; BARBARA NICKS MUSIC; CONCORD MUSIC GROUP, INC. d/b/a JONDORA MUSIC,

CIVIL ACTION NO.:

COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs,

v.

DMAN, INCORPORATED d/b/a THE GROVE SPORTS BAR & EATERY and JAMES D. PETTIGREW and DEANN HENSLEY, each individually,

Defendants.

Plaintiffs, by their attorneys, for their Complaint against Defendants, allege as

follows (on knowledge as to Plaintiffs; otherwise on information and belief):

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. This is a suit for copyright infringement under the United States Copyright Act of 1976, as amended, 17 U.S.C. Sections 101 *et seq.* (the "Copyright Act"). This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Section 1338(a).

2. Venue is proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Section 1400(a).

#### THE PARTIES

3. Plaintiff Broadcast Music, Inc. ("BMI"), is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware. BMI's principal place of business is 7 World Trade Center, 250 Greenwich Street, New York, New York 10007. BMI has been granted the right to license the public performance rights in 14 million copyrighted musical compositions (the "BMI Repertoire"), including those which are alleged herein to have been infringed.

4. The Plaintiffs other than BMI are the owners of the copyrights in the musical compositions, which are the subject of this lawsuit. All Plaintiffs are joined pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 17(a) and 19(a).

5. Plaintiff Universal – Millhouse Music, a Division of Magna Sound Corp is a corporation. This Plaintiff is a copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

6. Plaintiff Combine Music Corp. is a corporation. This Plaintiff is a copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

Plaintiff Rondor Music International, Inc. is a corporation doing business as Irving
Music. This Plaintiff is a copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

8. Plaintiff Dandelion Music Co., a division of Jamie Music Publishing Co. is a corporation. This Plaintiff is a copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

20114595.1

#### Case 1:19-cv-01958-JRS-DML Document 1 Filed 05/16/19 Page 3 of 7 PageID #: 3

9. Plaintiff Groper Music is a sole proprietorship owned by Jerry Jeff Walker. This Plaintiff is a copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

10. Plaintiff Rhythm Wrangler Music is a sole proprietorship owned by Christopher David Wall. This Plaintiff is a copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

11. Plaintiff Songs of Universal, Inc. is a corporation. This Plaintiff is a copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

12. Plaintiff Get Loose Music, Inc. is a corporation. This Plaintiff is a copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

13. Plaintiff Tremonti Stapp Music is a partnership owned by Scott A. Stapp and MarkT. Tremonti. This Plaintiff is a copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

14. Plaintiff Reservoir Media Management Inc. is a corporation doing business as Reservoir 416 also known as Reservoir One America. This Plaintiff is a copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

15. Plaintiff Barbara Nicks Music is a sole proprietorship owned by Barbara M. Nicks. This Plaintiff is a copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

16. Plaintiff Concord Music Group, Inc. is a corporation doing business as Jondora Music. This Plaintiff is a copyright owner of at least one of the songs in this matter.

17. Defendant DMAN, Incorporated is an Indiana corporation which operates, maintains and controls an establishment known as The Grove Sports Bar & Eatery, located at 3206 S Emerson Ave., Beach Grove, IN 46107, in this district (the "Establishment").

20114595.1

#### Case 1:19-cv-01958-JRS-DML Document 1 Filed 05/16/19 Page 4 of 7 PageID #: 4

18. In connection with the operation of the Establishment, Defendant DMAN, Incorporated publicly performs musical compositions and/or causes musical compositions to be publicly performed.

19. Defendant DMAN, Incorporated is an Indiana corporation with an address of 3206 S. Emerson Ave, Beech Grove, IN, 46107, USA and a registered agent of Deann Hensley with an address of 239 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Beech Grove, IN 46107. Defendant DMAN, Incorporated has a direct financial interest in the Establishment.

20. Defendant James D. Pethgrew is an individual residing in the state of Indiana with with an address of 233 N. 16th Ave, Beech Grove, IN 46107. Defendant James D. Pettigrew is an officer of Defendant DMAN, Incorporated, with responsibility for the operation and management of that corporation and the Establishment.

21. Defendant James D. Pettigrew has the right and ability to supervise the activities of Defendant DMAN, Incorporated and a direct financial interest in that corporation and the Establishment.

22. Defendant Deann Hensley is an individual residing in the state of Indiana with with an address of 239 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Beech Grove, IN 46107. Defendant Deann Hensley is an officer of Defendant DMAN, Incorporated, with responsibility for the operation and management of that corporation and the Establishment.

23. Defendant Deann Hensley has the right and ability to supervise the activities of Defendant DMAN, Incorporated and a direct financial interest in that corporation and the Establishment.

20114595.1

#### CLAIMS OF COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

24. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each of the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 23.

25. Since November 2017, BMI has reached out to Defendants over 30 times, by phone, mail and email, in an effort to educate Defendants as to their obligations under the Copyright Act with respect to the necessity of purchasing a license for the public performance of musical compositions in the BMI Repertoire. Included in the letters were Cease and Desist Notices, providing Defendants with formal notice that they must immediately cease all use of BMI-licensed music in the Establishment.

26. Plaintiffs allege nine (9) claims of willful copyright infringement, based upon Defendants' unauthorized public performance of musical compositions from the BMI Repertoire. All of the claims for copyright infringement joined in this Complaint are governed by the same legal rules and involve similar facts. Joinder of these claims will promote the convenient administration of justice and will avoid a multiplicity of separate, similar actions against Defendants.

27. Annexed to this Complaint as a schedule (the "Schedule") and incorporated herein is a list identifying some of the many musical compositions whose copyrights were infringed by Defendants. The Schedule contains information on the nine (9) claims of copyright infringement at issue in this action. Each numbered claim has the following eight lines of information (all references to "Lines" are lines on the Schedule): Line 1 providing the claim number; Line 2 listing the title of the musical composition related to that claim; Line 3 identifying the writer(s) of the musical composition; Line 4 identifying the publisher(s) of the musical composition and the

#### Case 1:19-cv-01958-JRS-DML Document 1 Filed 05/16/19 Page 6 of 7 PageID #: 6

plaintiff(s) in this action pursuing the claim at issue; Line 5 providing the date on which the copyright registration was issued for the musical composition; Line 6 indicating the copyright registration number(s) for the musical composition; Line 7 showing the date(s) of infringement; and Line 8 identifying the Establishment where the infringement occurred.

28. For each work identified on the Schedule, the person(s) named on Line 3 was the creator of that musical composition.

29. For each work identified on the Schedule, on or about the date(s) indicated on Line 5, the publisher(s) named on Line 4 (including any predecessors in interest), complied in all respects with the requirements of the Copyright Act and received from the Register of Copyrights Certificates of Registration bearing the number(s) listed on Line 6.

30. For each work identified on the Schedule, on the date(s) listed on Line 7, Plaintiff BMI was (and still is) the licensor of the public performance rights in the musical composition identified on Line 2. For each work identified on the Schedule, on the date(s) listed on Line 7, the Plaintiff(s) listed on Line 4 was (and still is) the owner of the copyright in the respective musical composition listed on Line 2.

31. For each work identified on the Schedule, on the date(s) listed on Line 7, Defendants publicly performed and/or caused to be publicly performed at the Establishment the musical composition identified on Line 2 without a license or permission to do so. Thus, Defendants have committed copyright infringement.

32. The specific acts of copyright infringement alleged in the Complaint, as well as Defendants' entire course of conduct, have caused and are causing Plaintiffs great and incalculable damage. By continuing to provide unauthorized public performances of works in the BMI

20114595.1

## Case 1:19-cv-01958-JRS-DML Document 1 Filed 05/16/19 Page 7 of 7 PageID #: 7

Repertoire at the Establishment, Defendants threaten to continue committing copyright infringement. Unless this Court restrains Defendants from committing further acts of copyright infringement, Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable injury for which they have no adequate remedy at law.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray that:

(I) Defendants, their agents, servants, employees, and all persons acting under their permission and authority, be enjoined and restrained from infringing, in any manner, the copyrighted musical compositions licensed by BMI, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. Section 502;

(II) Defendants be ordered to pay statutory damages, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. Section 504(c);

(III) Defendants be ordered to pay costs, including a reasonable attorney's fee, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. Section 505; and

(IV) Plaintiffs have such other and further relief as is just and equitable.

Dated: May 16, 2019

### BINGHAM GREENEBAUM & DOLL LLP

<u>/s/ April A. Wimberg</u> April A. Wimberg (IN Bar # 31813-22) Bingham Greenebaum Doll LLP 3500 PNC Tower 101 South Fifth Street Louisville, KY 40202 Tel: 502-587-3719 Email: awimberg@bgdlegal.com

Attorney for Plaintiffs