

January 12, 2015

To: BMI Blanket License Stations

From: Television Music License Committee

Subject: The New BMI AFBL License

- ✓ *Are you a BMI Blanket License station?*
- ✓ *Do you produce your local news?*
- ✓ *Do you or could you use a BMI Music theme or library for your local news production?*
- ✓ *Did you know that you might be able to significantly reduce your monthly blanket fee by electing the BMI AFBL License?*

What do you have to do to reduce BMI Blanket License Fees?

- ♪ Direct license your **BMI** local news theme or library.
- ♪ Elect the BMI AFBL Blanket License.
- ♪ File your BMI composer direct license with BMI.
- ♪ Prepare and file detailed cue sheets for your locally produced programs including:
 - ♪ Program name, date and time
 - ♪ Composer/Publisher for each performance
 - ♪ Type of music used (Theme, Feature, Background)
 - ♪ Length of the performance (in seconds)
- ♪ Review the AFBL reports prepared by BMI on a monthly basis
- ♪ Pay the monthly AFBL Blanket license fee

Please understand that the BMI AFBL license is very different from the ASCAP ABL and therefore needs to be considered separately. Since these Licenses are different, choosing an ASCAP ABL does not mean you should also choose a BMI AFBL License.

The goal of this license is to provide stations that do not qualify for a BMI per program license an alternative that can be used to reduce blanket fees by direct and source licensing. The license gives a partial credit for **BMI affiliated** performances that are direct licensed. The additional costs to the station for electing this license are the cost of preparing and filing cue sheets for locally produced programs and paying for direct licensing of the BMI performance rights in news. The cost of the cue sheets will be minimal if a standard cue sheet is used as is done with the per program license. Our suggestion is that you contact MRI (818-558-1400) or WG Slantz & Co (636-922-1600) to discuss the most efficient method to prepare these cue sheets. They have experience in preparing cue sheets under the per program license and in direct licensing.

Questions? Take advantage of our expertise. Call Alixandra Steier at 301-961-1970 or alix@televisionmusic.com. She will be able to make an initial assessment of the value of the license to your station and whether or not you should pursue the required reporting and direct licensing.