



ANNOUNCEMENT

from the Copyright Office, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20559-6000

NOTICE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE

DISTRIBUTION OF DART ROYALTY FUNDS FOR 1992, 1993, AND 1994

The following excerpt is taken from Volume 61, Number 185 of the *Federal Register* for Monday, September 23, 1996 (pp. 49799-49800)

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Copyright Office

[Docket No. 95-1 CARP DD 92-94]

Distribution of DART royalty funds for 1992, 1993, and 1994

AGENCY: Copyright Office, Library of Congress.

ACTION: Notice of Prehearing Conference.

SUMMARY: The Library of Congress issues this notice to inform the public that the Copyright Arbitration Royalty Panel (CARP) which shall determine the distribution of the 1992, 1993, and 1994 digital audio recording technology (DART) royalties in the Musical Works Funds has scheduled a prehearing conference with the participants to the proceeding. At this meeting, the participants shall consider proposals for paying the panel for their services and establish a schedule for the hearings.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The prehearing conference will be held on Friday, October 4, 1996, beginning at 10:00 a.m., in the CARP hearing room, Room LM-414, located on the fourth floor of the Library of Congress, James Madison Building, First Street and Independence Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tanya M. Sandros, CARP Specialist, Copyright Arbitration Royalty Panel, P.O. Box 70977, Southwest Station, Washington, D.C. 20024.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Audio Home Recording Act (AHRA) requires manufacturers and importers to pay royalties on digital audio recording devices and media that are distributed in the United States. Each year, interested copyright parties file claims with the Copyright Office during January and February for royalties collected the preceding calendar year under chapter 10 of the Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. Subsequently, these funds are distributed to the claimants in two ways; either the claimants negotiate a settlement for a share of the royalties, or the Librarian of Congress convenes a CARP to determine the distribution of the funds.

On August 8, 1996, the Librarian of Congress initiated the 180-day arbitration period for the distribution of the 1992-1994 DART royalties. 61 FR 39670 (July 30, 1996). The regulations governing the administration of the Copyright Arbitration Royalty Panels requires that all meetings of the panels be open to the public, and that the schedule for the proceeding shall be published in the *Federal Register* at least seven calendar days in advance of the first meeting. 37 CFR 251.11(a)(b). This notice announces the time, date, and place of the first meeting. The arbitrators, however, have not set the schedule for the presentation of the parties' cases at this time. Therefore, the Library will publish the original schedule for this proceeding as soon as it becomes available, as required by 37 CFR 251.11(b). Any changes to the original schedule will be announced in open meeting and issued as orders to the parties participating in the proceeding.

Dated: September 17, 1996

Marybeth Peters,
Register of Copyrights.

[FR Doc. 96-24290 Filed 9-20-96; 8:45 am]

[Billing Code: 1410-33]