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## HOW TO PROTECT YOUR INDEPENDENT RECORDING



## MASTER RECORDING OR SERIOUS DEMO: IS YOUR RECORDING REALLY SAFE?

What if...

- the tracks are stolen?
- the tracks are misused?
- the band breaks up?

Is there...

- legal protection if you are ripped off?
- additional front money when you sign with a label?
- additional royalty revenue?

The Bandstand Record Agreement addresses these concerns for groups with two to eight members.

## THE BANDSTAND RECORD AGREEMENT

This special agreement was developed for members of self-contained, unsigned bands who share equally in the profits, royalties, or other monies generated by the use of their recordings. The Bandstand Record Agreement contains the name of the group, title and length of each song recorded, and the date and location of the recording sessions.

After each member signs and is given a personal copy of the agreement, the original is filed with the AFM office. The documentation is then available to protect the interests of each individual member of the group on those recordings should any member leave the group. It also avoids any misunderstand-

ing that can occur when the group becomes signed by a label, as to the identity of the actual royalty artists on those recordings.

In addition to addressing the basic issue of protecting the performers' rights on the recording, it creates the documentation necessary for the AFM to pursue, on behalf of the musicians, any money that may later become due as a result of a new-use of those recordings (e.g., motion pictures, jingles, etc.).

This service is particularly appreciated in those early stages of a group's development when its budget is not yet up to the point where they can afford an attorney.

In the event the masters are picked up for national release (i.e., the group is signed with a major label), the Bandstand Record Agreement requires the recording company to sign the AFM Sound Recording Labor Agreement (SRLA). The SRLA gives musicians additional payments, fringe benefits, and participation in the AFM Special Payments Fund.

## **SUPPORT FOR LARGER GROUPS**

Groups larger than eight should call Patrick Varriale at 212.869.1330 ext. 234 for more information on protecting your recordings.

## **FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Please contact your local for additional information, or log onto the AFM website at [www.afm.org](http://www.afm.org) for further details.