



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Educational Telecommunications Association and Intermediary Copyright Royalty Services To Help Public TV Producers Claim Portion of \$213 Million In Government Collected Royalties.

Royalties for Public TV Shows Undistributed Unless Claimed.

April 11, 2012— Columbia, SC & Washington, DC—National Educational Telecommunications Association (“NETA”) and Intermediary Copyright Royalty Services (“Intermediary”) announce their joint efforts to assist public television producers in claiming portions of millions of dollars in government-collected retransmission royalties.

Royalties are paid out of large distribution pools managed by the U.S. Copyright Office. Last year, over 1000 organizations filed claims to collect television retransmission royalties from combined cable and satellite royalty pools of \$307 million. Public TV shows are entitled to approximately 7.4% of the \$213 million cable portion of those royalties reaching \$15.76 million annually.

Copyright holders rarely discuss filing royalty claims annually for their programming, because the more parties who file claims, the less each claimant receives. NETA and Intermediary are working together to advise public TV producers of these royalties and to assist them in claiming and collecting their royalties.

“If a public TV show is broadcast on free-to-air TV, and retransmitted over cable, then that program is eligible for royalties in the U.S. and potentially other collectives internationally,” says Ted Hammerman, Intermediary founder. “When we realized that we were already representing over 50 of public television’s independent producers, we knew it would be beneficial to work together with NETA to assist as many more as possible.” As a recognized leader in this niche of copyright law, Intermediary claims, tracks, and distributes royalties for clients.

“NETA wants to ensure our clients capitalize on this opportunity and retrieve all revenue to which their programming is entitled,” states Anita Sims, VP Finance & Business Development, NETA, “and we look forward to creating more goodwill for our clients and referring them to Intermediary to claim and collect as many royalties as possible.”

Under the Copyright Act, federal law mandates payment of retransmission royalties. These compulsory payments made by cable operators are submitted to the Licensing Division of the Copyright Office semiannually. Cable operators are required to pay pennies for each system’s distant-signal subscribers to receive copies of broadcast programming. Based on the number of U.S. pay TV subscribers, these pennies add up to millions of dollars. In the U.S., claims must be filed each July for the prior year’s programming. Initial royalty distributions can take over four years from the filing date. Royalties cannot be collected without filing claims.

About NETA. The National Educational Telecommunications Association, one of public television’s first professional associations, was organized originally in 1967. It serves public television licensees and educational entities in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico, by providing quality program content, educational resources, professional development, management support, and national representation.

About Intermediary. Founded in 2002 in Washington, DC, Intermediary represents more cultural programming interests in copyright proceedings than any other entity worldwide. The firm serves as copyright holders’ advocate to assert claims, enforce rights and recover royalties due and payable to rights holders.

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