COPYRIGHT CLAIMS BOARD

Docket number: 25-CCB-0121
August 4, 2026

Julie M Johnson	*v.*	Sambo Sampson
CLAIMANT		**RESPONDENT**

ORDER REGARDING ELECTION OF DAMAGES

The Copyright Claims Board (Board) is in receipt of the evidence list and evidence filed by claimant Julie M. Johnson (Johnson) on March 25, 2026. The Board notes that those filings do not indicate what kind of damages—either statutory or actual damages—she seeks, and requests clarification from Johnson on the damages sought.

Actual damages are money damages awarded based on the proven harm or loss the claimant suffered as well as the profits of the respondent attributable to the infringement. The Board can only award actual damages that are proved by evidence. Statutory damages are in an amount that the Board considers just within a range set by statute. In this smaller-claims proceeding, the maximum damages award (actual or statutory) is $5,000. The minimum statutory damages award is $750; there is no minimum amount for an award of actual damages. For more information on damages, see the **Starting an Infringement Claim** and **Damages** chapters of the CCB Handbook.

The Board notes that Johnson may elect actual or statutory damages at any time before a final determination is rendered. 17 U.S.C. § 1504(e)(1)(B)(i). Johnson is directed to file a document with a brief statement making that election clear: the document does not need to state anything beyond what election she is making.

Johnson is directed to provide this election by **Tuesday, August 11, 2026**.

If there are questions, please contact **asktheboard@ccb.gov**. Include the docket number in the subject line. The Board is unable to provide legal advice. We can provide only legal information and assistance concerning Board procedures and requirements.

Copyright Claims Board