COPYRIGHT CLAIMS BOARD

Docket number: 26-CCB-0682
November 10, 2026

Soungyeon Kim	*v.*	Seojin Kim
CLAIMANT		**RESPONDENT**

ORDER DISMISSING CLAIM WITHOUT PREJUDICE AND RESOLVING ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

Soungyeon Kim (Claimant) filed this claim of copyright infringement before the Copyright Claims Board (Board) on November 1, 2026. The claim indicated that the respondent resides in Seoul, South Korea. Claims against a person "residing outside of the United States" are categorically "not subject to determination by the Copyright Claims Board." 17 U.S.C. § 1504(d)(4). Therefore, on November 9, 2026, the Board gave notice of its intent to dismiss the claim as unsuitable, and ordered Claimant to show cause, both in a written response and at November 30, 2026, conference with a Copyright Claims Officer, why filing the claim in this proceeding was not an act of bad-faith conduct.

On November 9, 2026, Claimant filed a document responding to the order to show cause and a request to withdraw the claim. Claimant acknowledged that the respondent resides in South Korea, apologized for "these severe administrative errors and unreasonable filings" in this claim and in another proceeding (Claim No. 26-CCB-0542) against the same respondent, and stated: "Because I am not fluent in English, I had to rely entirely on AI tools and translation software, which unfortunately led to critical misunderstandings of the form fields."

Based on Claimant's response to the order to show cause, the Board declines to find that Claimant acted in bad faith, cancels the conference previously scheduled for November 30, 2026, dismisses the claim without prejudice and closes Case No. 26-CCB-0682. While the Board cannot hear the claim if the respondent is a foreign resident, dismissal without prejudice means the claim may be filed again in a proper forum, provided there is no agreement with the respondent to the contrary.

Copyright Claims Board