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**STATEMENT FROM:** NMPA President and CEO David Israelite  
**RE:** Senate Confirmation of Victoria Espinel as First U.S. Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator

“The National Music Publishers’ Association welcomes the news of the Senate’s swift confirmation of Victoria Espinel as the country’s first Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator. This important position will bring much-needed leadership and coordination to the government’s work on intellectual property enforcement across all agencies.

“The timing of this confirmation is crucial. As our economy continues to struggle, it is critical that all pieces of government are effectively and efficiently filling their roles in supporting job-creating industries. The core copyright industries, including music publishers and songwriters, employ 5.6 million workers and add \$889 billion to the U.S. economy.\* Yet copyright infringement continues to be the most significant threat to this vibrant workforce.

“The NMPA joins others in the copyright community in offering our support, resources and expertise as Ms. Espinel begins this critical undertaking. We urge Congress and the Administration to give her their full support and adequate resources to effectively carry out this national mission.”

## **BACKGROUND**

The Senate voted late Thursday, December 3 to confirm the nomination. The Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator is a position created by the PRO-IP Act, signed into law late last year.

\*Figures are for 2007 as reported by the International Intellectual Property Alliance in its 2003-2007 Report, Copyright Industries and the U.S. Economy.

### **About the NMPA**

Founded in 1917, the National Music Publishers’ Association (NMPA) is the trade association representing American music publishers and their songwriting partners. The NMPA’s mandate is to protect and advance the interests of music publishers and songwriters in matters relating to the domestic and global protection of music copyrights.