



Copyright Review Board
United States Copyright Office · 101 Independence Avenue SE · Washington, DC 20559-6000

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Re: Second Request for Reconsideration of Refusals to Register *decider.com* Works (SR # 1-14218249032, 1-14315423418, 1-14434843929; Correspondence ID: 1-6UYH7CQ) and *pagesix.com* Works (SR # 1-14218249095, 1-14315490527, 1-14434843812; Correspondence ID: 1-6UYH7QK)

Dear Ms. Charlesworth:

The Review Board of the United States Copyright Office (“Board”) has considered NYP Holdings, Inc.’s (“NYP”) second requests for reconsideration of the Registration Policy and Practice Program’s refusal to register three groups of updates to the website “*decider.com*” for the months of August, September, and October 2024 (the “Decider Works”) and three groups of updates to the website “*pagesix.com*” for the months of August, September, and October 2024 (the “Pagesix Works”) (collectively, the “Works”), which were submitted using the Group Registration of Updates to a News Website (“GRNW”) application option. After reviewing the applications, identifying material, relevant correspondence, arguments in the second requests for reconsideration, and the current definition of a “news website” in the regulations governing GRNW, *see* 37 C.F.R. § 202.4(m)(1)(i), the Board finds that the Works are eligible for registration using the GRNW application.

I. BACKGROUND

A. *Decider.com*

On September 9, 2024, October 1, 2024, and November 5, 2024, NYP filed GRNW applications for *decider.com* with identifying material that “show[ed] how the home page appeared at a specific point during each day of the calendar month when new updates were published on the website.” *Id.* § 202.4(m)(6). In three largely identical letters, Copyright Office registration specialists refused to register the Decider Works as submitted using GRNW applications because *decider.com* did not qualify as a “news website” as defined by GRNW. Initial Letter Refusing Registration from U.S. Copyright Office to Elaine Steelman (Oct. 28, 2024); Initial Letter Refusing Registration from U.S. Copyright Office to Elaine Steelman (Nov. 4, 2024); Initial Letter Refusing Registration from U.S. Copyright Office to Elaine Steelman (Nov. 8, 2024). When these determinations were made, a “news website” was defined in the

regulations governing GRNW as “a website that is designed to be a primary source of written information on current events, either local, national, or international in scope, that contains a broad range of news on all subjects and activities and is not limited to any specific subject matter.” 37 C.F.R. § 202.4(m)(1)(i) (2024); *see* Group Registration of Updates to a News Website, 89 Fed. Reg. 58991, 58999 (July 22, 2024) (final rule). NYP subsequently requested that the Office reconsider these refusals, asserting that the “diverse content” found in the updates to *decider.com* demonstrates that the website fits within the GRNW definition of a “news website,” which should be interpreted broadly. *See* Letters from Jacqueline Charlesworth to U.S. Copyright Office (Jan. 27, 2025). On May 30, 2025, after reconsideration, the Office again concluded that the Decider Works were ineligible to be registered using the GRNW application based on the regulatory definition of “news website,” explaining that “[b]y limiting its focus to television and streaming news, *decider.com* is ‘limited to [a] specific subject matter’ and therefore does not qualify as a ‘news website.’” Refusal of First Requests for Reconsideration from U.S. Copyright Office to Jacqueline Charlesworth at 4 (May 30, 2025). In a letter dated August 18, 2025, NYP requested that, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 202.5(c), the Office reconsider for a second time its refusal to register the Decider Works. Letter from Jacqueline Charlesworth to U.S. Copyright Office at 1 (Aug. 18, 2025). As in its previous requests for reconsideration, NYP asserted that *decider.com* is a “news website” for purposes of GRNW because, among other reasons, “[t]he website contains daily updates that include news relating to politics, technology, business, entertainment, fashion, consumer information, and international news.” *Id.* at 5.

B. Pagesix.com

On September 9, 2024, October 1, 2024, and November 5, 2024, NYP filed GRNW applications for *pagesix.com* with identifying material that “show[ed] how the home page appeared at a specific point during each day of the calendar month when new updates were published on the website.” 37 C.F.R. § 202.4(m)(6). In three largely identical letters, Copyright Office registration specialists refused to register the Pagesix Works as submitted using GRNW applications because *pagesix.com* did not qualify as a “news website” as defined for the purposes of GRNW. Initial Letter Refusing Registration from U.S. Copyright Office to Elaine Steelman (Oct. 28, 2024); Initial Letter Refusing Registration from U.S. Copyright Office to Elaine Steelman (Nov. 4, 2024); Initial Letter Refusing Registration from U.S. Copyright Office to Elaine Steelman (Nov. 8, 2024). NYP subsequently requested that the Office reconsider these refusals, asserting that the “diverse content” found in the updates to *pagesix.com* demonstrates that the website fits within the GRNW definition of a “news website,” which should be interpreted broadly. *See* Letters from Jacqueline Charlesworth to U.S. Copyright Office (Jan. 27, 2025). On May 30, 2025, after reconsideration, the Office again concluded that the Pagesix Works were not eligible to be registered using the GRNW application based on the regulatory definition of “news website,” explaining that “[b]y limiting its focus to celebrity and entertainment news, *pagesix.com* is ‘limited to [a] specific subject matter’ and therefore does not qualify as a ‘news website.’” Refusal of First Requests for Reconsideration from U.S. Copyright Office to Jacqueline Charlesworth at 4 (May 30, 2025). In a letter dated August 18, 2025, NYP requested that, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 202.5(c), the Office reconsider for a second time its refusal to register the Pagesix Works. Letter from Jacqueline Charlesworth to U.S. Copyright Office at 1 (Aug. 18, 2025). As in its previous requests for reconsideration, NYP asserted that *pagesix.com* is a “news website” for purposes of GRNW because, among other reasons, “[t]he

website contains daily updates that include news relating to politics, culture, law, medicine, business, sports, the environment, consumer information, and travel.” *Id.* at 5.

II. DISCUSSION

The GRNW rule in force when NYP applied to register the Works required that a “news website” be designed as “a primary source of written information on current events . . . that contains a broad range of news on all subjects and activities and is not limited to any specific subject matter.” Group Registration of Updates to a News Website, 89 Fed. Reg. at 58999. The final rule intended for the “news website” definition to be “very broad.” *Id.* at 58994. It would include websites that focus primarily on certain types of issues, like politics or technology, so long as they do not “limit their coverage to a particular subject matter” or direct their coverage at a “narrow or discrete groups of readers.” *Id.* Still, the rule acknowledged that administering the regulation might reveal ways in which it could be improved and noted that the Office would be “willing to revisit” the definition if it ultimately proved “too rigid or unworkable” in practice. *Id.*

After two years of experience processing GRNW applications and with the benefit of feedback during that time, the decision was made to clarify the definition of “news website.” *See* Group Registration of Updates to a News Website, 91 Fed. Reg. 31684, 31684 (May 28, 2026). The updated rule explained that, while the original rule intended the definition to apply broadly, the requirement that a news website “‘contain[] a broad range of news on all subjects and activities,’ if strictly applied, could be understood to exclude otherwise eligible news websites that focus on a defined subject area or set of topics.” *Id.* To rectify this, the new rule reworded the “news website” definition. *See* Group Registration of Updates to a News Website, 91 Fed. Reg. 52239 (Aug. 13, 2026) (final rule). In doing so, the rule clarified that while a news website needs to “report on a variety of subjects,” it “may have a particular lens through which it filters its reporting” and focus on “subjects within that topic area.” *Id.* at 52240 n.11.

III. CONCLUSION

Reviewing the Works in light of the rule’s current definition of “news website,” the Board finds that *decider.com* and *pagesix.com* satisfy its requirements and therefore the Works

are eligible to be registered using GRNW applications. For the reasons stated herein, the Board reverses the refusals to register the copyright claims in the Works.¹

The Board now refers this matter to the Registration Policy and Practice division for registration of the Works, provided that all other application requirements are satisfied.



U.S. Copyright Office Review Board

Maria Strong, Associate Register of Copyrights and

Director of Policy and International Affairs

Nicholas R. Bartelt, Assistant General Counsel

Michael J. Druckman, Assistant General Counsel

¹ The Board's decision applies only to the six referenced Works.