

From: [REDACTED]
To: [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](#)
Subject: Cartoonists Copyright Protection
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 1:33:32 PM

Dear Ms. Espinel,

I am writing in response to your call for input and participation to shape an effective intellectual property enforcement strategy. A workable, affordable, simple process for batch registration of editorial cartoons is vitally important for editorial cartoonists because our work is being stolen now more than ever before.

I am the political cartoonist for msnbc.com and my work is syndicated to close to 850 clients; that is more daily newspapers than any other American editorial cartoonist. I also own and run a syndicate that distributes the work of about sixty cartoonists from around the world, mostly to American newspapers. We syndicate political cartoons to more American newspaper editorial pages than any other syndicate. You can see our syndicate site at <http://caglecartoons.com> and our pay-per-use online store for licensing rights to political cartoons at: <http://politicalcartoons.com>.

The cartoonists we represent upload their cartoons to our web site for sale and distribution, our newspaper clients download the cartoons from the site and we also deliver to them by e-mail. The newspapers receive close to 20 cartoons per day and they never report to us on which cartoons they actually publish, or when the cartoons are published. A typical newspaper pays only about \$20 per week for the right to reprint any of the 75,000 cartoons in our searchable database.

Editorial cartoonists almost never register their work for copyright protection because the process is difficult. We have no idea what date each cartoon is published, much less where it is published, the title of the publication or the page number. It is very rare for us to get tear sheets; our clients can't be bothered with that. It is impossible for editorial cartoonists to comply with the current process for registering our works.

I would urge you to create a simple batch registration process for editorial cartoonists that would allow cartoonists to submit a large number of cartoons with a simple form that doesn't require information about the date and place of publication of any cartoons.

Please contact me if you have any questions or if there is anything we can do to help.

Truly,

Daryl Cagle
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Daryl Cagle, Cartoonist for msnbc.com

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