From:
To: FN-OME

To: FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty
Subject: Intellectural Property Protection
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 5:37:00 PM

Dear Ms. Espinel,

I am a Professional Photographer and a former chapter President of the ASMP and a supporter of the Copyright Alliance. I want to Thank you and President Obama for providing us this opportunity. I remember the the initial members of the ASMP who went to bat for copyright protection for Photographers in 1940's. Like in so many other ways we have privileges that our peers in other countries don't enjoy. These privileges are one of the reasons that we are such a creative nation. We are rewarded for our creativity, the work it requires and punish those that would benefit by stealing our Intellectual property. If we wish to keep this advantage as a nation, I think it is important to protect our copyrights and continue to make it easier to register them. As Creatives we work hard just to provide for our employees and contractors, do all the "business" of creativity, sales, marketing, production, office management, etc. Having to police the world for illegal use of our images is an area many of us have no budget of time or finances for. It usually happens by accident or by searching the internet for our names. I do think a campaign showing support for copyright and warning many uneducated unknowing infringers the risk of stealing intellectual property would be a benefit to our and other creative industries. Being very careful to avoid loopholes such as are prevalent in the Orphan Works Act is paramount to our industry. I think it is important to listen to the ASMP and other organizations fears and ideas when these legislations are considered. Thank you again for your support of Artists and what is in fact their lifeblood.

All the best,

Jeff Caven

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